THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • FRIDAY • AUGUST 16, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 38 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianxpress
twitter.com/newindianxpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

SBI, PNB IN TALKS WITH K'TAKA GOVT FOR AMICABLE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In their first reaction to the sudden decision of the Karnataka govt to stop all transactions with them, the SBI and PNB said they are engaged with the state for an amicable resolution

BOTH ISSUED SEPARATE STATEMENTS SAYING THE MATTER AT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM IS PENDING IN COURT

SBI SAYS As the matter is currently sub judice, we are unable to provide any specific comments at this time. However, we remain in ongoing discussions with the Government of Karnataka to resolve the issue amicably

PNB SAYS The bank is committed for an amicable resolution of the matter and is in discussion with Karnataka govt | P4

adani
INDULGE
THE MORNING STANDARD
KOLKATA'S WEEKEND GLOW
THE SUNDAY STANDARD

Kolkata's Most Accomplished Women And the City of the Goddess
An unbeatable match
SHAKTI | SPIRIT | SERENITY

DEVI AWARDS
WOMEN'S AWARDS FOR DYNAMISM & INNOVATION
BY INVITATION ONLY

August 16, 5.30 pm
ITC Royal Bengal

Smriti Irani, Former Union Minister, will be presenting the awards

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

Presenting Partner adani
Associate Partners LIC SENCO
Celebration Partner Radico SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE
Gifting Partners auli
Outdoor Partner SELVELONE
EVENT XPRESS

• Tells world India's progress doesn't threaten anyone • 75,000 more medical seats to be created in five years

PHOTO: SHEKHAR YADAV

Modi push for secular civil code

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

IN his longest Independence Day speech lasting 98 minutes, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday ticked all the important boxes like pitching for a secular civil code, giving the one nation, one poll concept a further push, creating jobs, farmers, corruption, punishment for crimes against women, the Bangladesh situation, and the vision of Viksit Bharat (developed nation) by 2047.

Delivering his 11th consecutive speech from the ramparts of Red Fort, Modi emphasised the need for stringent action against gender crimes, calling for tougher measures and instilling fear among perpetrators — in the context of the horrific rape-murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata — to ensure justice for women.

Expressing concern over the recent unrest in Bangladesh and the attacks on Hindus, he urged the new government there to guarantee their safety.

The prime minister also categorically told the world that India's progress does not pose a threat to anyone. "While we progress as a country, the challenges will also increase, especially externally. I want to convey to such forces that India's development will not pose a threat to anyone," he averred.

Pitching for a uniform civil code, Modi said, "A secular civil code is the need of the hour. A significant segment of our population recognises that our current civil code is communal and discriminatory."

Modi also announced plans to create 75,000 new medical seats in five years to address the shortage of healthcare professionals in the country. P9

Oppn rap

In an apparent jibe at the Opposition, he said some people can't digest the growth in the country. "I urge you to reject such elements who don't see development unless it benefit them individually."

SIDDU: GUARANTEES HELPING PEOPLE, WILL CONTINUE THEM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IN an attempt to allay concerns over continuation of his government's five guarantee schemes, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday reiterated that they will be continued without any delay in benefits reaching the beneficiaries.

CM Siddaramaiah at Manekshaw Parade Ground in Bengaluru on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Delivering his Independence Day speech at the Manekshaw Parade Ground here, he made a veiled attack on the NDA government at the Centre over disparity in allocation of funds.

Siddaramaiah said, "The guarantee schemes have brought relief to the people who have been suffering due to the rising income inequality. On one hand, our government is giving impetus to redistribution of wealth through these schemes, on the other, we have launched programmes for sustainable economic development of the state with equal commitment." He said each beneficiary family receives direct and indirect benefits amounting to around Rs 5,000 a month through the five guarantee schemes. P4

WITH THIS ISSUE CITY'S BEST WEEKEND GUIDE INDULGE 38 PAGES, INCLUDING 24 OF INDULGE (TABLOID)

Damaged equipment after a mob vandalised the RG Kar Medical College | PTI

Mob mess at Kolkata hosp adds to outrage

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

KOLKATA police on Thursday detained nine persons in connection with vandalism at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital the previous night.

In the wee hours on Thursday, a group of 40-50 outsiders had entered the hospital compound disguised as protesters and ransacked the stage where the junior doctors were protesting over the gruesome rape and murder of a postgraduate medical student.

Meanwhile, the CBI team investigating the rape-murder case questioned five doctors and some officials of the hospital. The CBI team also questioned the officer in charge of the Tala police station, under whose jurisdiction RG Kar hospital falls.

According to eyewitnesses, the violent mob entered the emergency department and destroyed the furniture and medical equipment, attacked the nursing station and medicine store, and damaged CCTV cameras. While the BJP plans to hold a candle light march on Friday, TMC's Mamata Banerjee will hold a rally demanding capital punishment for the culprits. P10

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
Deemed to be University (Declared U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

KIIT Believes in Reality and Quality

SLOW AND STEADY WINS THE RACE
RANK OVER THE YEARS
KIIT has steadily improved its position in the NIRF Universities Rankings conducted annually by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

Rank 24 2020 → Rank 21 2021 → Rank 20 2022 → Rank 16 2023 → Rank 15 2024

KIIT Jumps to 15th Position in Universities Rankings 2024
nirf

Young University Rankings 2024
World Rank: 168 India Rank: 10

Impact Rankings 2024
SDG#10-Reduced Inequalities
World Rank: 6 India Rank: 1

This is a significant achievement, especially considering that KIIT, as an institute, is only 27 years old and 20 years as a university. What makes this even more remarkable is that Medical and Law Schools of KIIT, which were established in 2007, have been ranked 25th and 11th, respectively.

• KIIT is only 27 years old as an institute (1997 – 2024) and 20 years old as a university.
• KIIT does not have any institute/university in the name of "Kalinga" anywhere else in the country and globe.

KIIT (Deemed to be University) has only one permanent campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe.

ALMANAC TODAY

- **Friday:** 16.08.2024 • **Year:** Krodhi • **Ayana:** Dakshinayana
- **Ritu:** Varsha • **Masa:** Shravana • **Paksha:** Shukla • **Tithi:** Dwadasi 4.52 am
- **Nakshatra:** Moola 10.08 am • Moon in Makara Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 10:30 am to 12:00pm
- **Gulikakala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am • **Yamaganda:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm

WEATHER

MIN 22°C | MAX 29°C

FORECAST
Thunderstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 06.07 am
Sunset 06.40 pm
Moonrise 03.49 pm
Moonset 02.18 am

It's monsoon! Mercury soaring, city logs 29.6°C

IMD director attributes temperature rise in state to dip in rainfall

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IT'S monsoon, but temperatures are soaring. This phenomenon is being experienced not only in the city, but also in other parts of the state.

In Bengaluru, the maximum temperature recorded on August 15 was 29.6 degrees Celsius, 1.4 degrees Celsius above normal. On August 14, the maximum temperature was 31 degrees Celsius, 2.8 degrees Celsius above normal.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the minimum temperature was 22.5 degrees Celsius, 2.4 degrees Celsius above normal.

India Meteorological Department (Bengaluru) Director N Puviyarasan, told *The New Indian Express* that the weather conditions so far this month were similar to that of May.

PITTER PATTER, IT ONLY GETS HOTTER

Stations	Actual Max Temp	Normal Max Temp	Difference (As on Aug 15, 2024)
Bengaluru City	29.6	28.2	1.4
Bengaluru KIAL	31.4	29.1	2.3
Bengaluru HAL	29.9	28.4	1.5

"The sun is blazing and the sky is clear with no wind and humidity is high. There is also a dip in rainfall, due to which the temperatures are rising across the state," he said.

He said this situation will continue for the next three days when the monsoon will become active again.

He said the difference in minimum and maximum temperature recorded in Haveri was 6.6 degrees Celsius. This was the highest difference in the state. The maximum temperature recorded in Haveri was 33.7 degrees Celsius.

As per IMD data, from June 1 (onset of monsoon) to August 15, Karnataka recorded a 22% rise in rainfall. Against the actual rainfall forecast of 573.4 mm, the state received 697.3 mm. The maximum amount of rainfall was recorded in June and July. Bengaluru city recorded a 37% rise in rainfall. From June 1 to August 15, the city received 287.8 mm rainfall as against the actual forecast of 210.3 mm.

Schoolchildren enact scenes from the freedom struggle during Independence Day celebrations at Maneskshaw Parade Ground (left). Vehicles, adorned with the Tricolour, ride on BGS Flyover in Bengaluru on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL & VINOD KUMAR T

PATRIOTISM, HUMANITY AND CULTURE CELEBRATED ON I-DAY IN BENGALURU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

AS the nation marked its 78th Independence Day, Bengaluru came alive with patriotic fervour and witnessed a blend of cultural celebration and humanitarian recognition. While Karnataka Association of Resident Doctors (KARD) organised a blood and organ donation drive, Manipal Hospital honoured an organ donor, whose life-saving gift to four recipients embodied the spirit of freedom and compassion.

Separately, a blood, eye, and organ donation drive was organised to support community health and wellbeing. The event saw the collection of 141 units of blood, 201 individuals pledging their eyes, and 72 organ donation pledges, furthering the mission of enhancing lives through organ donation.

As part of Independence Day celebrations, Reena Suvarna N, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Whitefield Sub-Division, and an alumni of Mount Carmel College Autonomous, visited the institution as chief guest, where she encouraged students to never give up on their dreams and presented rankings to seven NCC cadets.

With a focus on patriotism and environmental responsibility, RV University held a plantation drive on campus. The key focus of the celebration was the planting of over 50 saplings on the university grounds.

St Claret PU College organised the 5K Claret Peace Run, which attracted over 3,000 participants, including students, parents, and the public.

Manipal Hospital marked the day by honouring Nagaraja, a cadaver organ donor, whose selfless act saved four lives. The event highlighted the profound impact of organ donation, celebrating Nagaraja's legacy of giving those in need a new lease on life. Nagaraja, a 59-year-old farmer from Kolar, suffered a catastrophic intracranial hemorrhage and he was pronounced brain death. His family's decision to donate his organs exemplified their dedication to saving lives.

At Canadian International School, I-Day was celebrated with a diverse community of students and staff from over 40 nationalities, reflecting the spirit of unity and freedom that defines India.

At Bangalore City University, the event highlighted India's path to Independence as a model for the world and to direct the youth and students to fulfil the aspirations of the freedom fighters.

People carry out a procession with a 260-foot-long Tricolor, as part of the 78th Independence Day celebrations, in Bengaluru on Thursday | EXPRESS

Tech can help deliver speedy justice: CJ

Bengaluru: NV Anjaria, Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court, on Thursday said technology has the capacity to ensure speedy and transparent justice delivery system if it is used judiciously. The HC has travelled a long way, with remarkable steps to develop e-infrastructure, citizen-centric e-services and e-Seva Kendras among others, he said, delivering the 78th Independence Day message at the HC. In the times to come, "we vouched for our intentions to start e-filing, digitisation of court records, and such other tech-filled steps", he said. "Society today stands at the crossroads of the internet revolution. This institution cannot remain aloof."

National anthem in sounds of nature

Bengaluru: A unique musical rendition of the national anthem created with the sounds of animals, birds and insects was released on the occasion of the 78th Independence Day here on Thursday. Created by Bengaluru-based music producer Premik Jolly, along with Chennai-based environment organisation ProClime, the audio and video includes sounds of crickets, koyel, Indian cuckoo, barn owl, squirrels, Asiatic elephant, Alexandrine parakeets, Indian Gaur, Roya Bengal tiger, Indian forest frogs and other wild birds and insects. This is the first time ProClime has made such a music piece.

EXPRESS READ

Bank of Baroda opens branch in Hennur

Bengaluru: Bank of Baroda (BoB) opened a new branch in Hennur, the 49th in Bengaluru North region, on August 14. After inaugurating the branch, BoB Executive Director Lalit Tyagi said Hennur has huge business potential and the bank aspires to conduct Rs 100 crore of retail business within two years with the new branch. He also urged customers to utilise the latest digital products available with the bank, and avail the competitive interest rate being offered for home and car loans, term deposits and monsoon dhamaka scheme. General Manager and Zonal Head (Bengaluru Zone) Inder Mohan Singh, DGMs and staffers were present.

Metro crosses 9L ridership milestone

Bengaluru: For the first time since its launch in October 2011, Bengaluru Metro crossed the nine-lakh ridership barrier on August 14. The flower show at Lalbagh, and the extended weekend which made people take a Metro to reach bus and railway stations, are the main reasons. The Metro recorded a ridership of 9,17,365 - 4,43,343 on the Purple Line and 3,01,775 on the Green Line. The interchange station at Kempegowda had a boarding figure of 1,72, 247, reveals data released by BMRCL. The revenue earned was nearly Rs 2.35 crore. The previous high ridership was also recorded a day earlier on August 13 at 8,71,878 and a revenue of Rs 2.12 crore.

Ramaiah institute marks founder's birth anniv

Bengaluru: To celebrate the birth anniversary of Ramaiah Institute of Technology founder-chairman MS Ramaiah, a sapling plantation drive was held at the botanical garden of Bangalore University. The event was conducted by Gokula Education Foundation and its NSS department. Foundation VP MR Seetharam joined students in planting 105 saplings. Seetharam stressed on the importance of not only planting saplings, but also taking care of them. He said, "The initiative to plant 105 trees is a positive step towards environmental protection. Equally important is the care and maintenance of these saplings. At our college, we provided one tree to each NSS student. Everyone should feel responsible for protecting the environment."

Canara Bank scholarship for SC/ST girls

Bengaluru: On the occasion of Independence Day, Canara Bank launched the Dr Ambedkar Vidya Jyothi scholarship scheme under its CSR initiative to provide financial assistance to SC and ST girl students across India. Bank MD and CEO K Satyanarayana Raju awarded the scholarships at the Bengaluru head office on Thursday, while senior managers held scholarship distribution camps across the country. This year, scholarships will be provided to 44,742 students, amounting to Rs 18 crore. Each branch has selected one meritorious SC/ST girl student from Classes 5 to 10. Students from Classes 5 to 7 will get Rs 3,000 per year, and from Classes 8 to 10, Rs 5,000 per year. On the eve of Independence Day, the bank also provided assistive devices to persons with disabilities and distributed equipment to women from old-age homes.

SWR logs best monthly pax revenue in July

ENS @Bengaluru

JULY turned out to be historic for the South Western Railway (SWR) Zone as it recorded its best passenger revenue for a single month at Rs 268.3 crore, said Bengaluru Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Yogesh Mohan.

Delivering a talk after hoisting the national flag and inspecting a parade to mark the 78th Independence Day celebrations at Mahatma Gandhi Railway Colony, the DRM said, "In the first four months, from April to July 2024, SWR earned Rs 1,077 crore as passenger revenue, a 6.47 % increase over the corresponding period last year."

Revenue through freight in the first four months of this fiscal touched Rs 2,632 crore at the originating stations in SWR.

Initiatives by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) like 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey' and 'Meri Saheli' helped rescue 553 children and 10 women in the previous financial year. During the same period, the RPF recovered Rs 20.69 lakh worth of stolen railway property, registered 16,057 cases and seized 1,383 live reserved tickets worth Rs 44.52 lakh under the Railway Act.

I-Day at KIA

Meanwhile, cultural programmes and parades marked I-Day celebrations at Bengaluru airport on Thursday.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

16th August: Here's a strange fact about the solar system. The Sun is almost exactly four hundred times the size of the Moon but almost exactly four hundred times as far from the earth. That's why they look the same size to us, and that's why their cycle is the basis of our calendar. And that's why, in English, we have the word month - from moonth - for the period of one complete lunar cycle.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The Moon reaches a climax in its cycle in relation to a deeply emotional region of your chart. But what happens next is anyone's guess. That's partly because while it is easy to forecast rising tension nobody can predict exactly how you will respond. All I'd say is: at all times keep at least one foot where it's supposed to be - on the ground.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You are undoubtedly ready to make your move. But I think that's because you're already sensing possibilities which might not arrive until tomorrow. Today favours open horizons and far-sighted approaches to narrow-minded people, but you might be best off leaving the cutting edge to those who really know what's happening.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
There is so much to learn from your current situation. Even minor, trivial day-to-day events can possess a much deeper significance; but even if you don't 'get it' straight away, you'll have another chance next month - and the month after that!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
What's bugging you? Could it be the feeling that you're not getting anywhere? Or that someone has let you down? In either case it looks as if you're about to feel a whole lot better, but only if you link up with partners and allow them to take the lead. You absolutely have to extend the hand of friendship to friends and rivals alike.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Both today's leading planetary aspects are imaginative, even a little mystical in tone. How can you benefit from this? For a start, you can listen to your dreams. And if you can't remember your dreams, listen to your day-dreams. They're not all complete nonsense, and there may be pointers to the solution of a genuine problem.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
I think you deserve a jolly good holiday. You're a workaholic by nature, so you always have work to squeeze in some spare time, but perhaps I could plead with you to go easy on yourself and have as much time off as you can. Your financial fortunes are about to change, with adjustments expected both in your income and spending.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
If I advise you to pause for thought, it's because your planets are urging you to rush ahead. You could be increasingly impatient, but your circumstances are changing - and that's why you will have to consider every step with due care and attention. And, at work, it's who you know - and how you get on with them - that counts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
There's one of those Sun-Moon alignments to-day which stirs up emotions and creates excitement. You'll probably have some financial loose ends to sort out, but you'll soon realise that an issue which was bugging you wasn't so important after all. Remember - your emotional stars are still beneficial, and that should reinforce your romantic confidence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Today's situation is somewhat unusual. It's the second time this year that you've faced a challenge between the Sun and the Moon in your sign and you may have a sense of déjà vu - as if you've been here before. The only difference is that this time around you have the chance to actually do something about it!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You may be a bit unsteady on your feet, emotionally speaking, but that's quite natural. After all, the Sun and the Moon are facing each other down in somewhat sensitive regions of your chart. Perhaps it's an ideal moment to carry on with private matters, which don't involve other people, but which mean a great deal to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You're in an excellent position socially, even though some friends may be in an unpredictable mood. Still, just because they don't always see eye-to-eye, that's no reason why you should take it on yourself to bring order to chaos. A relationship could still be hard work, but then, the more effort you put into it the better your rewards.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There is too much happening in the upper reaches of your chart for you to be able to truly relax. But that means that you'll feel better if you keep active and energetic. You'll lose yourself in some vigorous and busy pursuit, forgetting your cares and woes; it's like a sort of sophisticated displacement activity!

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

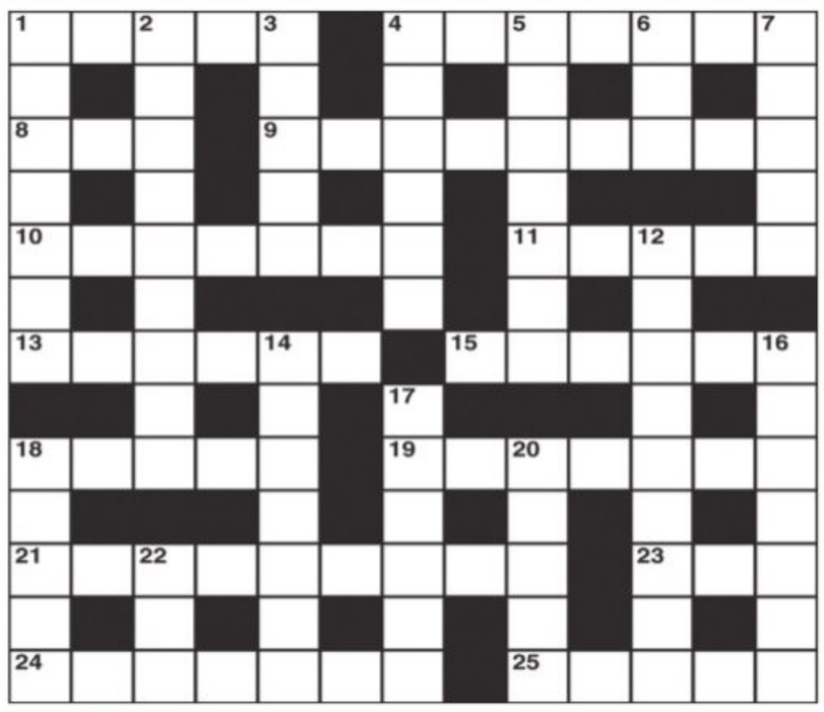
	5		9				1	
3				1			5	
6				5		4		
8					1		6	4
				8				
9	1		3					8
		4		2				1
	3			9				2
	6				4		7	

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3 X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

5	2	9	8	4	3	6	7	1
7	3	8	6	1	9	2	4	5
1	6	4	2	7	5	8	3	9
6	5	1	7	3	4	9	2	8
9	8	3	1	6	2	7	5	4
2	4	7	5	9	8	3	1	6
3	1	2	9	5	6	4	8	7
8	9	5	4	2	7	1	6	3
4	7	6	3	8	1	5	9	2



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 After treatment Alice is a new woman (5)
4 Ill-mannered dog? (7)
8 Mass commercial for crackers (3)
9 Nonstop flight (9)
10 Article written about musical performance (7)
11 Badly cared for timber (5)
13 Dolt is exceptionally unmoved (6)
15 Shares all items currently available (6)
18 Haven found among Samoa's islands (5)
19 Troops didn't finish the course (7)
21 Lady killer (9)
23 Check the club is returned (3)
24 A virtue easily cultivated (7)
25 Rule book (5)

DOWN

1 They take pictures a hundred - a thousand - times (7)
2 I leave ridiculous organisation; it's farcical (9)
3 Generation not seen as representative (5)
4 Preserve from predicament (6)
5 It's forbidden; and badly one hundred take it (7)
6 Small drink for a small child (3)
7 Not so common in wear a red socks (5)
12 Having had a 10% cut last month I got married (9)
14 How one may make progress on one's feet (7)
16 Spit in the sea (7)
17 Such a person may have too much on his plate (6)
18 Go round twice at speed (5)
20 Man having to show zest (5)
22 Manage to race (3)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Billposter, 8 Costs, 9 Manilla, 10 Refusal, 11 Incur, 12 Earner, 14 Knocks, 17 Sloth, 19 Octuple, 21 Officer, 22 Exits, 23 Relay races.

Down: 2 In so far, 3 Lists, 4 Ormolu, 5 Tension, 6 Relic, 7 Barristers, 8 Corner shop, 13 Ethical, 15 Caprice, 16 Poorly, 18 Offer, 20 Theta.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

EWSTE

NHEEC

TRORAY

CRPIYA

You do know we have cameras everywhere, right?
I thought you wouldn't expect a daytime breakout.
HE WAS CAUGHT TRYING TO BREAK OUT OF PRISON BECAUSE HE WASN'T ABLE TO ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHOSE HABIT PLACID OUTFIT
Answer: The air conditioner cost more than they were hoping, but they were — COOL WITH THAT

Two persons have been arrested for circulating a fake video on social media, claiming that a tiger was sighted in Kondaskoppa, on the outskirts of Belagavi, on Thursday. The duo had reportedly edited a video of a tiger and uploaded the clip on several social media platforms, in an attempt to scare locals

Two minors held for recording women in washroom of Urvashi Theatre

The woman found the mobile phone hidden in the ventilator during the movie interval

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

TWO 14-year-old boys have been arrested for recording women in the washroom of the reputed Urvashi Theatre on the Siddaiah Road near Lalbagh. On Sunday night, a 23-year-old woman went to the theatre to watch the Kannada movie, Bheema.

Around 11.30 pm, as the interval of the movie came, she went to use the washroom, where she saw a mobile phone kept in the ventilator, recording women covertly.

When she came out of the washroom, she saw two boys running away. She immediately brought the matter to the notice of the theatre staff and also called the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) number 112.

After the police were informed, they checked CCTV footage and identified the accused.

The police waited till the completion of the movie, and allowed only one exit. They started checking every person exiting the hall.

When the two accused came together, the police caught them and took them to the jurisdictional Kalasipalya police station.

"The police on patrol acted swiftly and went to the theatre. They also reported the matter to their superiors. The police then checked the theatre's CCTV cameras and saw two boys running into the hall. After identifying them, the police waited till the completion of the movie and ensured that the two accused had not walked out from the theatre yet. When the film was over and the crowd started coming out, the police team identified and caught the duo and took them to the station," said an officer investigating the case.

Both the boys, who are 14 years old, are residents of Jayanagar 1st Block. One mobile phone that was used to film the women in the washroom, has been recovered and sent for analysis.

The Kalasipalya police have registered a case in this regard and are investigating it.

5 held in connection with the beautician's murder in Magadi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE brutal murder of 32-year-old beautician Lalitha alias Divya in a forest area, in Magadi, on the outskirts of the city on Monday, has taken a twist. Initially, it was suspected that her 34-year-old husband, Umesh, a supervisor with a travel agency, was the sole accused in the case. However, his arrest on Wednesday led to four more suspects being apprehended in the case. The beautician was murdered by a five-man gang. The victim's husband, who was on the run, was arrested on Wednesday near Kunigal. The four other accused are his close friends. All the five, who are suspected to be drug addicts, have been remanded in judicial custody.

After murdering Lalitha, a mother of a five-year-old boy, the accused had shifted her body from Hujagal Hill to a forest area in Chelur, which is almost 5 km from the murder spot, on foot.

The other accused are identified as Shashank, Kiran, Rohit and Bharat, all in the age group of 25-30 years. All the accused are residents of Kurupalya and other parts of Magadi taluk and are daily-wage labourers. The body of Lalitha, a resident of Madanayakanahalli, was found buried in a trench on Tuesday. Just minutes before the murder, she had shared the live location with her friend Uma, which helped the police trace the body.

"On Saturday, Umesh went to see his wife at her house in Madanayakanahalli. He reportedly saw a youth from his village Kurupalya, nearby. Umesh had suspected that his wife was having an affair with the youth and often fought with her. Due to the repeated quarrels, she distanced herself from her husband three years ago. After Umesh saw the same youth again near his wife's house, he decided to kill her. He then hatched a plot and sought the help of his four friends. It was decided that they would call her, and get her to sign divorce papers. After Lalitha confirmed that she would come near the court, Umesh informed his friends and asked them to wait near Hujagal Hill," said an officer investigating the case. Lalitha was reportedly murdered on Monday, after Umesh took her to a temple on Hujagal Hill.

Woman, two others including stepbrother arrested for honeytrap

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 32-year-old woman and her stepbrother along with another male accomplice have been arrested for allegedly honey trapping some men and extorting money from them. The main accused had separated from her husband, and was finding it difficult to lead a normal life. She then came across reports of honey trapping, and her step brother joined hands with her. She randomly gave missed calls to unidentified numbers. If any of them called back, she would trap them through her sweet talk, and start exchanging messages. She would then invite the victims to her house. Unaware of the trap, when the victims came to her house, she used to take them to the bedroom. Her two associates would enter and threaten the victims and extort money from them. If the victims refused to give money, the main accused would threaten them of filing a rape complaint against them.

The accused are identified as Najma Kausar, 32, a resident of Agrahara Layout, her stepbrother Khaleel, 24, and Mohammed Ashik, 20.

The incident came to light after one of her victims, a delivery boy, filed a complaint in the Sampigehalli police station. Kausar had given a missed call to the delivery boy. Assuming that it could be somebody known to him, the victim called back and got trapped on August 8. The accused had attacked him with a lethal weapon after they did not find enough money on him. The police are on the lookout for another accused who was part of the gang. Further investigations are on.

LAST-MINUTE NEEDS

Shoppers look to buy fresh fruits from pushcarts at a local market, ahead of Varamahalakshmi Puja, in Bengaluru on Thursday | VINOD KUMAR T

CRIME PATROL

School boy electrocuted after Independence Day celebration

TUMAKURU: A class III student died of electrocution hours after taking part in the independence day celebration at Huyildore Kaval village in Sira taluk on Thursday. Hemanth (8) touched a guy wire of an electric pole while playing just outside the school. He was the son of farmers Thimmaiah and Jayalakshmi. Block Education Officer Krishnappa clarified that the incident occurred outside the school premises at around 12.30 p.m, but by then the independence day celebration was over. Parents and locals held Bescom responsible for the incident as the electricity passed through the guy wire. But Bescom AEE Govindaraju told TNIE that there was a live wire that came into contact with the guy wire. "Some farmers might have taken illegal electricity connection to their Irrigation Pumpsets and they may be responsible for the live wire coming into contact with guy wire", he alleged. The Bescom Executive Engineer Jagadish also visited the spot and examined. A case has been registered with the Sira town police and investigation is on. **ENS**

LOKAYUKTA OFFICE TO GO PAPERLESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Lokayukta office will go paperless as it is adopting e-administration and digitising all sections to bring transparency and reduce the pressure on the staff, said Lokayukta Justice B S Patil at his Independence Day address on Thursday.

> The strength of the officials and the staff of the institution has increased after the merger of the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The service details of all 1,247 officials and staff are being digitalised
>
> BS Patil, Lokayukta Justice

He further said that the necessary training has been imparted to the staff of the institution to adopt e-administration with the help of the e-secretariat. In the next phase, digitalisation will be introduced in complaints receiving and technical sections also, he added.

Justice Patil also said that the strength of the officials and the staff of the institution has increased after the merger of the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The service details of all 1,247 officials and staff are being digitalised.

This apart, it has been contemplated to submit a proposal before the Karnataka Public Service Commission to take necessary steps for the appointment of nine posts of First Division Assistants and 26 posts of Second Division Assistants. This was in view of the shortage of assisting staff to the officials in the institution, Justice Patil said.

Speaking on the occasion, Upalokayukta Justice K N Phaneendra remembered those who fought for independence. Another Upalokayukta Justice B Veerapppa administered the oath to eradicate corruption, saying that removal of corruption is freedom in the real sense.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage tender system from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
	Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.	
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2766/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
1	Providing, laying, supplying and linking of 300mm dia DI line from a) 14th Main road Attiguppe to Ganapathi Circle b) Fabrication of 300mm dia MS line along WOC road, 200mm dia feeder line near Deepanjalinagar metro station and 150mm dia DI pipeline from Attiguppe petrol bunk to 14th main, Attiguppe c) 300mm dia DI line from Ganapathi Circle to Nagarabhavi Main Road due work taken up by BBMP coming under AEEW1-2 Sub Division.	Rs. 260.12 Lakhs / Rs. 3.91 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2767/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
2	Providing and laying of 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipeline from a) Moodalapalya Circle to Nagarabhavi circle b) from Ganapathi Circle to Nagarabhavi main road coming under AEEW-1-2 Sub Division.	Rs. 297.54 Lakhs / Rs. 4.47 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2768/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
3	Providing and laying of 300mm dia RCC NP3 class UGD pipe line in place of damaged/ silted up SW line due to white topping by BBMP at 1st Main road (Vijayanagar Club road) from WCR to pipe line road coming Under Hosahalli Service station pertaining to AEEW1-1 Sub Division. c) Dr. Rajkumar road from Prasanna theatre signal to 6th Block circle (on both side of road) facilitate the white topping project coming Under Agrahara Dasarahalli Service station pertaining to AEEW1-3 Sub Division.	Rs. 190.17 Lakhs / Rs. 2.86 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2769/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
4	Providing and laying supplying and linking of various dia DI pipieline from Moodalapalya circle to Nagarabhavi circle due to white topping work taken up by BBMP coming under AEEW-1-2 Sub Division.	Rs. 322.94 Lakhs / Rs. 4.85 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2770/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
5	Providing & laying, supplying and linking of various dia DI & MS line from BSNL to Moodalapalya circle coming under AEEW-1-2 Sub Division.	Rs. 335.11 Lakhs / Rs. 5.03 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2771/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
6	Providing laying of 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipeline at a) from Telephone Exchange Chord to Samudra hotel b) Samudra hotel to Shanimahathma temple (Priyadarshini layout) coming under area of AEEW-1-2 Sub Division.	Rs. 322.16 Lakhs / Rs. 4.84 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2772/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
7	Providing and laying of various dia supply lines in line of existing CI lines in a) Railway parallel road 5th main road from WCR b) 1st Main (Vijayanagar Club road WCR to pipe line road facilitate white topping project coming Hosahalli Service station pertaining to AEEW1-1 Sub Division, Rajkumar road from Prasanna theatre to 6th Block circle Rajajinagar to facilitate white topping project coming under Agrahara Dasarahalli Service station pertaining to AEEW 1-3 Sub Division.	Rs. 338.26 Lakhs / Rs. 5.08 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2773/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
8	Providing and laying 300mm dia RCC pipeline (A) 80ft Road Kengeri Upanagar to Along 6th Main Up to Kommaghatta Road, (B) From Mysore Road Poornima Palace to Along Pattanagere main road up to Circle Maramma temple Pattanagere, (C) from Amma Ashrama Arch Outer ring road to along 1st main Kuvempu Road upto Amma Ashrama Main road coming under AEE W-2-1 Sub Division.	Rs. 300.17 Lakhs / Rs. 4.51 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2775/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
9	Providing and laying various dia DI water line to facilitate white topping in various locations coming under EENW-1 Division.	Rs. 272.41 Lakhs / Rs. 4.11 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-I/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2776/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
10	Providing and laying 300mm dia RCC NP3 sewer line to facilitate white topping in various locations coming under EENW-1 Division.	Rs. 252.49 Lakhs / Rs.3.79 Lakhs
	IFT No.:BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-II/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/2777/2024-25	**Date:14.08.2024**
11	Providing and laying 600mm dia MS water supply pipe line from Navarang theatre to Golden Heights,5th block, Rajajinagara both left and right hand side of Dr. Rajkumar road coming under Rajajinagar S/stn. area of AEENW-1 Sub Division.	Rs. 327.79 Lakhs / Rs. 4.92 Lakhs

Last date for receipt of tenders : **31.08.2024 upto 16:00 Hrs.** Technical Tenders will be opened on: **02.09.2024 after 17.00 Hrs.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (West)

The details regarding the tender and participatin in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/1494/2024-25

THE KARNATAKA STATE CO-OPERATIVE APEX BANK LTD

No.1, "Uthunga", Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajapete, Bengaluru-18,
Ph.No.080-26983700, 26983722, 22976600, 22976651
email: recoverycell@karnatakaapex.com

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule - 8(1)] (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **The Karnataka State Co-Operative Apex Bank Ltd.**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice Dated **06.06.2024** calling upon the Borrower;**(1) M/s. Skyreach Builders Pvt. Ltd.,** Office At: No-326, 5th Main, 10th Cross, 4th Stage Vinayaka Layout, Nagarabhavi Bengalore-560072 and **Guarantors; (2) Sri Praveen Mohan,** Director of M/s. Skyreach Builders Pvt. Ltd., **(3) Sri Mohan R,** Director of M/s. Skyreach Builders Pvt. Ltd., **Both are R/at:** # 326, 5th Main, 10th Cross, 4th Stage Vinayaka Layout, Nagarabhavi Bengalore-560072 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.38,86,61,496/-** (Rupees Thirty Eight Crore Eighty Six Lakhs Sixty One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Six Only) as on **06.06.2024**, together with future interest thereon at contractual rate of interest along with cost and charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub Section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the **13th Day of August of the year 2024.**

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Karnataka State Co-Operative Apex Bank Ltd., Head Office Branch for an amount of **Rs.38,86,61,496/-** (Rupees Thirty Eight Crore Eighty Six Lakhs Sixty One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Six Only) as on **06.06.2024**, together with future interest thereon at contractual rate of interest and costs and charges till the date of realization.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Schedule Property

(Description of the immovable properties mortgaged under registered Equitable Mortgage by Deposit of title deeds dated: 03.06.2017 and Deed Number-1040/2017-18)

Item No.2: - All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/2, measuring 26 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows : East by : Land in Sy.No.27/4 & 27/37, West by : Land in Sy.No.28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/3, 25 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/1 & 27/37.

Item No.3 :- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/3, measuring 33 guntas (+) 02 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 35 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/8, West by :Land in Sy.No.25 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.25 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/2 & 27/4.

Item No.4:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/16, measuring 10 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.26 & Road, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/17 & 27/15, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/15, South by ; Land in Sy.No.27/18.

Item No.5:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/19, measuring 39 guntas, (+) 02 Guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 1 Acre 01 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/18, 27/20 & Road, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/17, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/17, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/21 & 27/20.

Item No.6:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/21, measuring 12 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/20, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/22, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/19, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.7:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/22, measuring 15 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows:- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/21, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/23, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/17, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.8:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/24, measuring 37 guntas, (+) 03 Guntas of 'A' Kharab, Totally measuring 1 Acre, situated at DonnenahalliVillage, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/23, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/54 & 27/53, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/26, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.9:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/25, measuring 03 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/50, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/26 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/27, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/23.

Item No.10:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/26, measuring 10 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows:- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/25, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/52 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/27, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/24.

Item No.11:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/31, measuring 07 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows:- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/30, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/30, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/32, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/30 & Road.

Item No.12:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/35, measuring 31 guntas, (+) 02 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 33 Guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/5& 27/36, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/38&28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/1, 27/37, 27/36 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/38 & 37/34.

Item No.13:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/36, measuring 08 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows:- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/5, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/37, 27/35 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/4, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/35.

Item No.14:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/37, measuring 19 guntas, (+) 01guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 20 Guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/4 & 27/36, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/1, 27/2 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/2, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/35.

Item No.15:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/39, measuring 16 guntas, (+) 01 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 17 Guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/40, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/38, 28 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/34, 27/38 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/41.

Item No.16:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/42, measuring 28 guntas, (+) 01guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 29 Guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/32, West by : Land in Sy.No.28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/41 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/30.

Item No.17:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/43, measuring 15 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/30, West by : Land in Sy.No.28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/30 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/29.

Item No.18:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/44, measuring 22 guntas, (+) 07 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 29 Guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/55, West by : Land in Sy.No.28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road,South by : Land in Sy.No.27/56.

Item No.19:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/45, measuring 17 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/46 & 27/47, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/55, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Border and Road.

Item No.20:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/46, measuring 07 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/48, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/45, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/47.

Item No.21:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/47, measuring 09 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/48, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/45 &Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/46, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.22:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/48, measuring 16 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :-East by : Land in Sy.No.27/49, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/46 & 27/47, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.23:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/49, measuring 16 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/29, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/48, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder.

Item No.24:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/51, measuring 16 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/28, 27/52, 27/53 & 27/54, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/29, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder.

Item No.25:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/53, measuring 06 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/24, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/51, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/52 & Road, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/54.

Item No.26:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/54, measuring 10 guntas, (+) 02 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 12 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/24, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/51, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/53, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder and Road.

Item No.27:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/55, measuring 10 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/45, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/44 & 27/56, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/29 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder.

Item No.28:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/33, measuring 19 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/14, 27/15 & 27/32, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/40 & Road, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/34, South by : Land in Sy.No.27/41.

Item No.29:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/20, measuring 01 Acre 15 guntas (+) 05 guntas of 'A' Kharab, totally measuring 1 Acre 20 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.26 & Road, West by : Land in Sy.No.27/21 & 27/19, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/18, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder.

Item No.30:- All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy.No.27/56, measuring 34 guntas, situated at Donnenahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru and bounded as follows :- East by : Land in Sy.No.27/55, West by : Land in Sy.No.28, North by : Land in Sy.No.27/44 & Road, South by : Dodderi Village Boarder.

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 13.08.2024

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Karnataka State Co-operative Apex Bank Limited

Union minister HD Kumaraswamy urged the state government and the Karnataka Public Services Commission to postpone the KAS prelims examinations scheduled on August 27. The former CM said the commission must consider the requests by the candidates to postpone the exams and not hold the same in a hurry

VILLAGERS DOWNSTREAM IN FEAR AS SINGATALUR DAM LEAKS

Allege dam not maintained; cables, crest gate wheels have rusted

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

PEOPLE of Singatalur in Gadag district are living in fear after the TB dam's crest gate No 19 washed away on Sunday.

The reason for this is the Singatalur dam is getting filled fast because of rain and outflow from the Bhadra dam. Although all the crest gates of the Singalatur dam have been closed, water from gates 13, 16, 17, 19, 25 and 26 is leaking. Villagers fear that these crest gates may also get washed away if water level in the dam increases.

Some farmers living downstream of the dam told *TNIE* that the officials concerned placed coconut fronds and sandbags to stop water leakage. Rubber grippers of the crest gates have been damaged and this is the reason for water leaking from the dam. They demanded that the crest gates be repaired soon to prevent a TB dam-like incident in future.

The Singatalur dam was constructed in 2012 across the Tungabhadra river near Hammagi village in Mundaragi taluk of Gadag district. The dam has 26 crest gates and it can store 3.11 tmcft of water. But only 1.87 tmcft of water is stored. Three villages in Mundargi taluk will be inundated if more water is stored in the dam. With the steady increase in inflow into the dam, excess water is now being released through some crest gates.

Water leaks from a closed crest gate of the Singatalur dam | EXPRESS

Alleging that the dam is not being maintained properly by the officials, the villagers said even the cables and wheels of the crest gates have rusted.

However, the officials termed the allegations of the villagers as baseless and said steps have been taken to plug the leakage.

Water from this dam is provided to Huvinahadagali and Koppal towns in Vijayanagar district, Yelburga in Koppal district, Gadag-Betageri twin cities in Gadag district and several villages in Mundargi taluk.

If water leakage is not stopped, some villages and agricultural fields downstream of the dam will be inundated soon, the villagers said.

An official from the Mundargi division of the Singatalur dam said, "Of the 26 crest gates, only a few are leaking. We have invited tenders for repair and maintenance work for Rs 5 crore. The work will start after this monsoon."

ILLUMINATED I-DAY

A little girl waves the Tricolour, while Bengalureans gather to witness a dazzling display of lights at the Vidhana Soudha, in Bengaluru on Thursday | ALLEN EGENUSE J

TB reservoir: Stoplogs work not successful

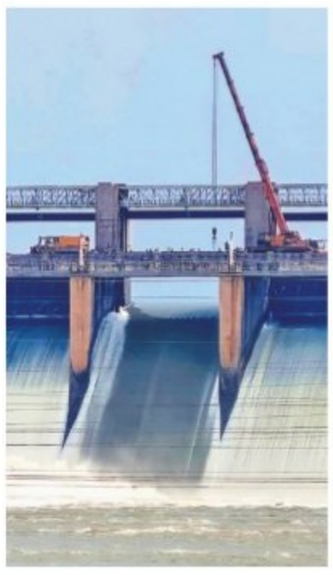
KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Hosapete

EFFORTS to instal temporary stoplogs at the broken crest gate of Tungabhadra Dam to stop water outflow, did not find success on Thursday, despite a team of experts working to a weekend deadline.

Some senior officials said a beam of the dam was obstructing the installation of the stoplogs. As per the expert team's plan, three iron sheets, each measuring 4x20 sqft, were designed by JSW Steel and two other engineering companies. A small difference in the sizes made it difficult to fix the new crest gate. Until Thursday evening, the expert team was attempting to instal the stoplog using a crane, at the base of the crest gate. The stoplog operation, a first of its kind in the country, was started on Wednesday but the actual work was attempted on Thursday. Terming it an ongoing operation, the team said installation will again be attempted from Friday.

A senior TB Dam official said, "We made all efforts to fix the stoplogs to crest gate 19 until Thursday evening. We hope it will be a success, though there are some technical issues. Two cranes arrived from JSW Steel plant on Wednesday. Of the five metal sheets, three are ready and have reached the dam. If the base of the first metal sheet is fixed successfully, it is easy to fix the other four. Three more sheets were made by some engineering works companies. One stoplog has the capacity to stop 25 cusecs water outflow."

The senior official said that after the gate was washed away, more than 25 tmcft water outflow was reported from the dam. At present, 76 tmcft of water is stored in the dam. An expert team is working hard to stop the outflow of water.



A crane at work over the broken crest gate no. 19 of TB Dam in Hosapete on Thursday | EXPRESS

> We made all efforts to fix the stoplogs to crest gate 19 until Thursday evening. We hope it will be a success, though there are some technical issues
>
> A senior official at TB Dam

Siddu need not resign as CM, even if Guv sanctions prosecution, says Dr G

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tumakuru

DEFENDING CM Siddaramaiah in the MUDA scam case, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Thursday said there is no need for the CM to resign from his post, even if the governor issues sanction for his prosecution. "There is no doubt that the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government will complete its full term," he told reporters, after hoisting the Tricolour at the 78th Independence Day celebrations at Mahatma Gandhi Stadium here.

"Even if the governor issues sanction to prosecute Siddaramaiah, there is no need for him to resign from his post even on moral grounds, as the petition against him is 'of lies, with no material evidence'," Parameshwara claimed.

He questioned the locus standi of the petitioner, activist TJ Abraham, who had sought prosecution of many leaders in the past. "Has the governor verified the petition and the background of the petitioner before issuing a show-cause notice to the CM," he questioned. He reiterated that the party will fight the case in court, should the governor issue the sanction, and also take the matter to the "people's court".

Asked if he also sought the CM's post, Parameshwara clarified that such as a situation has not arisen, adding that the government will focus on development on all fronts, be it irrigation, roads, education, health, industry, and rural development.

Further, Parameshwara said the five guarantees will continue, and the rules framed while implementing them will also remain the same. "If the wealthier, I-T payers are found taking the benefits, they will be dropped from the schemes," he stated. The home minister also claimed that the law and order scene is favourable, with no incidents of communal clashes reported in the current Congress government.

CM Siddaramaiah salutes after hoisting the Tricolour at Manekshaw Parade Ground on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Nation develops only if the states grow, CM to Centre

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THIS is the concept of Universal Basic Income, which provides direct financial assistance to poor families. The guarantees will continue, and we will give a befitting reply through Karnataka's enhanced economic growth to those who had predicted that the state will go bankrupt because of these schemes," Siddaramaiah said.

He said the Centre has deviated from this principle, leading to discrimination in allocation of funds to the states. By ignoring constitutional principles, there is a tendency to delay the financial share due to the states, which is not in the interests of the people.

Unfortunately, the states are forced to take legal action to get their rightful share from the Centre. "I urge the Centre to understand the fact that the nation develops only if the states grow," he said. The CM said voters made it clear in the last Lok Sabha elections that the power of democracy cannot be misused and forces indulging in divisive politics should be kept away from power. As many as 35 contingents from the Indian Army, IAF, Karnataka State Reserve Police, City Armed Reserve, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Bengaluru City Traffic Police, Dog Squad, National Cadet Corps, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, and other services participated in the parade.

₹100 CRORE TO PREVENT LANDSLIDES

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said 1,351 villages under 250 gram panchayats in Chikkamagaluru, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Kodagu, Shivamogga, and Hassan districts in the Western Ghats have been identified as areas prone to landslides by Geological Survey of India. To prevent landslides in these areas, a Rs 100-crore project will be launched in collaboration with the Geological Survey of India and the National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), he said.

120 KM RAIL BARRICADE

The CM said to address the man-animal conflict, the state government has launched a 120-km project to erect rail barricades in the affected areas. In addition, seven elephant task forces and two leopard task forces have been set up.

SBI, PNB talk to govt for amicable resolution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AFTER the state government decided to stop all its transactions with SBI and PNB, citing alleged financial irregularities, the public sector lenders have said they are in talks with the government to resolve the issue amicably.

The banks, however, refused to provide specific comments, stating that the matter is sub-judice. The government directed all its departments to halt their transactions and close their accounts with the two PSBs.

"As the matter is currently sub-judice, we are unable to provide any specific comments at this time. However, we remain in ongoing discussions with the Government of Karnataka to resolve the issue amicably," SBI said in a statement on Thursday.

A PNB statement said: "As the matter is currently subjudice, it will not be prudent to make any specific comment. However, the bank is committed for amicable resolution of the matter and is in discussion with the Government of Karnataka."

According to the circular issued by the state government, the decision to end all transactions with banks was taken after alleged financial irregularities with regard to deposits made by KIADB and KSPCB.

DCM: HDK quitting as MLA like flowing flag at half mast

ENS @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who hoisted the Tricolour in Channapatna on the 78th Independence Day, took an indirect jibe at Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy, likening the latter resigning from his Assembly seat, to a flag being lowered at half mast.

"Today is not just a flag-hoisting day, but also marks the ascent of the Channapatna constituency's development. As the lowering of the flag at half-mast is an insult to the national flag, so is a person elected by the people leaving them midway," he stated, after hoisting the Tricolour at the government boys first-grade college grounds.

Shivakumar has been frequenting the Assembly constituency since when Kumaraswamy resigned as its legislator, to get elected as the Lok Sabha MP from Mandya. With bypoll dates expected to be announced anytime soon, Shivakumar is eyeing the constituency, appealing to its electorate to consider him as a candidate and elect the Congress' nominee. Former minister and BJP MLC CP Yogeshwara, a strong contender for an NDA ticket, also shared the dais.

"It is a matter of great pride to have the opportunity to hoist the Tricolour here, on behalf of the government. Earlier, I used to participate in Independence Day celebrations in Kanakapura, Ramanagara and Bengaluru. I am fortunate to be able to participate in this programme, in Channapatna. I have come here as your son. There is no question of leaving you," Shivakumar told the crowd. He, however, maintained that he has been visiting Channapatna to develop it, rather than for politics.

'K'taka implementing inclusive schemes'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA has been at the forefront of implementing innovative and inclusive programmes, Governor **Thaawarchand Gehlot** said in his Independence Day message to the people of the state. "The State government is successfully implementing its five guarantee schemes, which are designed to empower women, support poor and middle-class families, and assist unemployed youth," he said.

The Governor said Karnataka is a progressive state, playing a crucial role in the overall development of the country. Through various development initiatives, the state has been at the forefront of implementing innovative and inclusive programmes, ensuring access to basic services to achieve comprehensive and sustainable development, he added.

Since Independence, both Karnataka and the country have witnessed remarkable progress, with India now standing as the fifth largest economy in the world, he said. "As we look towards the 100th anniversary of our Independence, it is the collective aspiration of our people that India becomes fully educated, economically robust and a leading force among developed nations. To achieve this, we must all commit ourselves to serving our country with devotion and dedication," he stated.

The Governor said currently, India and the world face the serious challenge of environmental imbalance. "It is our shared responsibility to protect and enhance our environment. Through initiatives like 'A Tree in the Name of Mother' campaign, we must take meaningful steps towards environmental conservation by planting saplings," he stated.

Shirur dogs find new home in Uttara Kannada SP office

M Narayan, SP of Uttara Kannada district, pets one of the dogs on Thursday | EXPRESS

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS @ Shirur (Uttara Kannada)

THE poignant image of two dogs frantically searching for the family of Lakshman Naik, which perished in the landslide at Shirur in July, had haunted people long after rescue work was complete. Not many had noticed that the dogs did not abandon the spot where Naik's hotel stood. A month later, they have found a new home in the quarters of the Uttara Kannada SP in Karwar.

Lakshman Naik, his wife Shanthi, daughter Avanthika and son Sourabh had been buried alive after a hillock collapsed on their hotel due to copious rain. Their two pet mongrels, who miraculously survived the tragedy, had spent days sniffing and scratching the ground, with one searching through the debris even during heavy showers. A picture of this went viral on social media after a *TNIE* report.

The dogs had received much sympathy with many people wanting to adopt them, but they were soon eclipsed by rescue operations. Now, Uttara Kannada Police has decided to adopt the dogs, with Superintendent of Police M Narayan quietly taking the initiative to move them to Karwar.

"When the landslide occurred on July 16, I went with Uttara Kannada DC Lakshmi Priya and other officials, and found the family had perished. Their relative Purush0ttam Naik told us the dogs were always around the hotel, and Naik's son Sourabh would look after them," SP Narayana said.

Even after the family was cremated, the dogs did not move away in search of a new home. When Narayan returned to check on rescue operations, and traffic movement began, he found the dogs there. "They were sleeping in the same place where the hotel once stood. I was touched by their loyalty. These dogs have a very good sense of smell," he added. "Whenever I was there, they would come to me, wag their tails and jump over me. A local contractor, Adlur Gopu, suggested I adopt them. I felt the same and decided to take care of them," he said.

Since Uttara Kannada district has a dog squad, it was decided to house them in a kennel first. . "Police have a dog trainer. I spoke to IGP Western Range and sought permission. I got the kennels ready in the police quarters. They will remain there, immaterial of who the SP is," the SP said.

Three persons, including a two-month-old boy, were killed and five others were injured after an overspeeding car collided with two other vehicles on the Outer Ring Road on the outskirts of Shamshabad in Telangana on Thursday evening

Karnataka's forests are worth ₹49 lakh cr

Valuation done by IISc researchers, yet to be done for other states; In 2005, worth was Rs 79 lakh crore

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

THE net value of Karnataka's forest ecosystem is worth Rs 49 lakh crore. The value has, however, dropped from its value of Rs 79 lakh crore in 2005. This is one of the findings in the yet-to-be published book, Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services', Karnataka State, India: Ecosystem Services.

Prof TV Ramachandra, from the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, and co-author of the book, told TNIE that the standard calculation method of net present value, and as per the Supreme Court order for renewable resource assets, is calculated at a 3 per cent discounted rate. Following this calculation, the total net value of the forest resource of the state stands at Rs 49 lakh crore. He added that this is not an achievement, but a worry as the value has dropped from 2005 due to forest degradation, change in land use and other factors. The annual forest value in 2005 was Rs 2,89,400 crore per year, which in 2019 reduced to Rs 1,85,400 crore per year.

"Earlier, we (IISc researchers) had done the ecosystem valuation for Dakshina Kannada. Assessing the works, United Nations asked us to do the valuation for all 30 districts of Karnataka. This is the first such valuation in India where the worth of forests, agriculture and aquatic wetlands has been evaluated."

Asked about other states, Ramachandra said valuation is yet to be done. The book describes the valuation of services of ecosystems (forests, agriculture and aquatic), tangible and intangible, for Karnataka, as per the validated statistical framework for natural capital accounting – System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA).

According to SEEA protocol, ecosystem services are defined as contributions of ecosystems to the benefits used in economic and other human activities. The valuation of ecosystem services provides an unbiased framework to value unaccounted ecosystem benefits and helps in developing meaningful policy interventions. The approach allows for adjusted regional or national accounts which reflect the output of ecosystem services as well as the depletion of natural resources and degradation costs (externalized costs of the loss of ecosystem services) of ecosystems in economic terms.

The team of researchers include Dr Bharath H Aithal, Associate Professor in Ranbir and Chitra Gupta school of Infrastructure Design and Management at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; Dr Bharath Setturu, Associate Professor at Chanakya University (School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences); Dr Vinay Shivamurthy, Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, Alva's Institute of Engineering and Technology, Moodbidri, Karnataka; Asulabha KS, Research Scholar in Ecoinformatics, and Sincy Varghese, Research Scholar in Ecoinformatics working on ichthyofauna.

'Father of Agni Missiles' Ram Narain Agarwal passes away

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

DR RAM Narain Agarwal, popularly known as the 'Father of Agni Missiles,' breathed his last in Hyderabad on Thursday. He was 84.

"With profound grief and sorrow, DRDO offers its condolences on the sad demise of Dr Ram Narain Agarwal, outstanding aerospace scientist and Padma Shree, Padma Bhushan awardee, who was instrumental in the development of India's long-range missile, Agni. May his soul rest in peace," the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) officials said in a statement.

Agarwal was the first Programme Director of the Agni missiles, which is India's iconic long-range ballistic missile programme. He led the programme for over 20 years before retiring as ASL director.

He was honoured with the Padma Shri (1990) and Padma Bhushan (2000) awards. In 2004, he was awarded this year's DRDO's Lifetime Achievement Award "for pioneering the development and establishment of long-range missile systems.".

"Dr Agarwal retired as Director ASL and led the country's ambitious Agni missile program for over two decades. He played a key role in establishing the re-entry technology-all composite heat shields, onboard propulsion systems, guidance and control, etc.-for missiles," DRDO added.

India's former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was the one who entrusted Agarwal with the responsibility to build the Agni missiles.

Born into a family of traders in Jaipur, Agarwal developed an interest in flights. The eminent scientist joined the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore to pursue a master's degree in aerospace engineering.

When he started heading the Agni missile project in 1983, even allies like the Soviet Union were not willing to share technology to build ballistic missiles with New Delhi. However, under Agarwal's leadership, DRDO did find a way to replenish India's defences with the mighty IRBMs.

OVERSIGHT?

Suspended head constable pops up on CM's medal list

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mysuru

CALL it an oversight or negligence of authorities, a head constable who was suspended a month back amid allegations of colluding with anti-social elements, appeared on the list of recipients for the prestigious Chief Minister's Medal.

The Chief Minister medal, an honour typically reserved for officials with exemplary service records, has now been mired in controversy following this incident.

Salim Pasha, who was part of the City Crime Branch (CCB) unit in Mysuru, was suspended a month ago amid serious allegations of misconduct. The accusations against him are far from trivial. Pasha is alleged to have colluded with criminal elements, indirectly facilitated the theft of public property, and contact with the criminal elements.

On July 12, based on a report from the ACP of Vijayanagar sub division, the city police commissioner's officer ordered his suspension until pending departmental enquiry.

Despite these charges, his name was somehow included among those being recognised with the Chief Minister's Medal, a list which was released on Wednesday, raising eyebrows and sparking outrage within the department.

According to sources, Pasha maintained suspiciously close ties with relatives of the accused in these cases and the CDR report even proved it, which ultimately led senior officials to recommend his suspension.

The incident has cast a shadow over the award, with many within the police department and the public questioning how such a glaring mistake could occur. The situation has left the police and even authorities undermining the integrity of the awards process.

Though police are tight-lipped about the incident and are unavailable for calls, sources revealed that a special committee meticulously reviews the service performance of candidates before recommending names to the government, however his name might be nominated before the suspension but it could have been reviewed again, said an official, on condition of anonymity.

When *The New Indian Express* contacted city police commissioner Seema Latkar, she did not respond to calls and messages.

The truck being lifted from Kali river on the outskirts of Karwar on Thursday| EXPRESS

Truck retrieved from Kali river a week after bridge collapse

SUBHASH CHANDRA N S @Karwar

THE Uttara Kannada district administration finally pulled out the truck, which fell into Kali river on the outskirts of Karwar when a 42-year-old bridge collapsed on August 7, on Thursday. The truck was on its way to Tamil Nadu from Goa when the incident occurred.

On August 14, preparations were being made to retrieve the truck from the river, but it was delayed by a day. However, the efforts resumed on Thursday morning when the IRB and the district administration decided to pull it out. A crane, belonging to a Yellapur-based company, was deployed for the operation.

A local Siddi youth Sanya, and Eshwar Malpe and his team dived into the waters to tie a rope to the truck. The divers and NDRF, district administration and the police managed to pull out the truck after a nine-hour operation. The truck was pulled up by a hundred metres after a struggle of five hours. The rope tied to the truck severed on several occasions and the company had to be dependent on Eshwar Malpe and Sanya Siddi time and again. Siddi, who works with a private firm which rented out the crane, dived in several times and remained in water without oxygen for several minutes to tie the rope to the vehicle.

The truck, belonging to a person from Dharmapuri district in Tamil Nadu, has now been brought out of water with the help of three towing vehicles, cranes and several ropes. The officials have lauded the efforts of Sanya Siddi. Senior police officers, Uttara Kannada SP Narayan and Uttara Kannada DC Lakshmi Priya were present at the spot.

Meanwhile, high drama prevailed when a person identified as Senthil, a relative of the truck owner, tried to jump into Kali river to end his life. However, a journalist named Naveen Sagar managed to rescue him. According to top police officials, he has been booked by Chittakula police.

EXPRESS READ

Debt-ridden family of three die by suicide

Hassan: A family of three committed suicide by jumping into Hemavathi canal near Channarayapatna town on Thursday morning. The deceased have been identified as Srinivas (43), his wife Swetha (36) and daughter Nagashree (13). Unable to bear the burden of the mounting debts, they resorted to the extreme step. According to locals, there were no family disputes. The trio left the house in the morning. The neighbours got the news about the tragedy by 1pm. Srinivas had reportedly borrowed hand loan of over `5 lakh from private financiers and was unable to repay the same. While Srinivas worked as a cab driver, his wife was a teacher in a private school in Channarayapatna town. Channarayapatna police retrieved the bodies with the help of expert divers. **ENS**

3 devotees drown in TN's Thamirabarani river

Tirunelveli: Three devotees, including two teen girls, drowned while taking bath in the Thamirabarani river near Sorimuthu Ayyanar Temple here on Thursday, while another devotee was rescued by the public. The deceased are N Sankareswaran (40), M Menaha (18) and her sister M Solai Eswari (15) of Pallapatti near Sivakasi. According to sources, one Murugan of Pallapatti in Virudhunagar visited the Sorimuthu Ayyanar Temple at Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, with his family. After offering prayers, they decided to take bath in the river. As the deceased persons and one J Mareeswaran (28), who did not know swimming, started to drown, onlookers rushed to the spot. While they managed to rescue Mareeswaran, attempts to save Sankareswaran, Menaha and Solai Eswari went in vain. **ENS**

Owaisi questions PM's I-Day speech on women's safety

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi on Friday wondered how can people expect social change if Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself does not take women's safety seriously.

"In today's speech, Narendra Modi expressed concern over women's safety. His own government approved the release of Bilkis Bano's rapists and murderers of her family. She spent 15 years fighting for justice. Modi was Gujarat CM for most of this time," the Hyderabad MP posted on X.

In his address from the Red Fort in Delhi, the Prime Minister said that even though the country is witnessing leadership by women in several fields, including the Air Force, Army, Navy, and the space sector, there are some worrisome developments too.

He was apparently referring to the rape and murder of a 31-year-old doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata and the national outrage following the heinous incident.

Meanwhile, Owaisi also pointed out Modi has campaigned for a candidate in Karnataka who is accused of the most heinous crimes against thousands of women. The AIMIM leader was referring to former Janta Dal (Secular) MP and former PM HD Deve Gowda's grandson, Prajwal Revanna, who has been accused of sexual assault on several women and is currently lodged in prison.

REACHING THE MASSES

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu shares a meal with officials and customers after inaugurating an Anna Canteen at Gudivada of Krishna district on Thursday. A total of 203 Anna Canteens will be set up across the state to serve quality food/breakfast at a meagre Rs 5 | EXPRESS

Revanth heads to Delhi to discuss cabinet rejig

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy left for Delhi on Thursday evening, to consult the Congress high command on Cabinet expansion, appointment to the posts of deputy speaker, chief whip, and PCC president and so on. According to sources in the Congress, the party high command wants to appoint a senior leader to the post of the PCC president who can work at the chief minister's wavelength. The party is looking for someone who can carry along with him the disparate elements in the party and coordinate party affairs. **ENS**

AGRI SURFACTANT FROM CASHEW NUT SHELLS CAN REPLACE TOXIC SOLVENTS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WITH industries and chemical labs synthesizing a wide variety of organic molecules every day and most of them done in water, they often undergo side reactions, yielding unwanted toxic products. To address this problem, chemists use toxic organic solvents, and more than 80% of the waste generated in chemical processes from such solvents is not disposed of properly.

Scientists revealed that waste produced by cashews can be a good substitute. India is the second largest producer of cashew nuts in the world, hence the raw material is easy and inexpensive to source.

The Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry (IPC), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), has come up with a solution and has synthesised a surfactant derived from cashew nut shell liquid (CNSL) -- an agricultural waste product generated during the roasting of cashews to separate the kernels. This process is called micellar catalysis.

"Since we were aiming to replace organic solvents, we felt that the substitute must be bio-based," said Pritesh Keshari, first author and PhD student at IPC. The study published in ACS Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering explained that surfactants are molecules that have a water-loving (hydrophilic) as well as a water-repelling (hydrophobic) component. The researchers combined cardanol, a hydrophobic compound found in CNSL, with m-PEG, a hydrophilic polymer, to create their surfactant.

"Suppose you dip a football in a pond or sea. As long as the football doesn't leak, it remains floating with no water entering inside the ball. We use the same analogy for micellar catalysis. When the substrate goes inside the micelle, it separates itself and the reaction product from the bulk water – and that's where the chemistry happens," said Susanta Hazra, Assistant Professor at IPC and corresponding author of the study. She added that the micellar catalysis mimics biological systems – many natural enzymes have a hydrophobic pocket much like the one in micelles.

"CNSL-1000-M led to 80% higher product yields in water compared to reactions carried out in organic solvents. Compared to existing surfactants, the new surfactant also gave 30% higher yields for reactions carried out in water," read the IISc release.

Using the surfactant can also help replace expensive catalysts like palladium with inexpensive nickel complexes, and facilitate reactions at lower temperatures.

The researchers are keen to work with industries to enable the transition from using toxic organic solvents to micellar technology as a sustainable and green alternative.

From farmer's son to Kirti Chakra, Andhra jawan's tale of valour

SREENU BABU PATIVADA
@ Srikakulam

IN a small, remote village of Nagiripenta in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh, Major Malla Rama Gopal Naidu's name is now etched in the annals of Indian military history.

Recognised for his extraordinary bravery at the Line of Control (LOC) in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, Major Naidu has been nominated for the prestigious Kirti Chakra award. This honour comes after he heroically neutralised two terrorists while safeguarding the lives of his troops on October 26, 2023.

On the occasion of India's 78th Independence Day, President Droupadi Murmu approved four Kirti Chakras and 18 Shaurya Chakras for personnel in the armed forces and Central Armed Police Forces. Of the four Kirti Chakra awardees, Major Naidu is the only one who will receive the award in person; the other three are being awarded posthumously. This recognition places Major Naidu among the most celebrated soldiers in India, as the Kirti Chakra is the nation's second-highest peacetime gallantry award, bestowed for valour, courageous action, or self-sacrifice away from the battlefield.

Maj Malla Rama Gopal Naidu

Born into a humble farming family, Major Naidu's journey from a small village in the Santhabommali mandal of Srikakulam to the ranks of the Indian Army is a story of determination and passion. His father, Appalanaidu, worked as a small-scale farmer, and his mother, Hemamalini, managed their home. Despite their modest means, Naidu was deeply passionate about serving in the defense forces from a young age.

His path to the Indian Army began at Sainik School in Korukonda of Vizianagaram district, where he completed his secondary education. Following his Intermediate studies, he was selected for the prestigious National Defense Academy (NDA) in 2012. Excelling in his training, Major Naidu graduated from the Indian Military Academy (IMA) in Dehradun in 2016, earning a gold medal for his outstanding performance. He joined the Indian Army as a lieutenant and quickly rose through the ranks, achieving the position of Major by 2022.

Major Naidu's defining moment came during an intelligence-based counter-infiltration operation along the LOC in Kupwara on October 26, 2023. Leading an ambush party, he detected a group of five terrorists at 10:10 am. Acting swiftly, he repositioned his team to trap the infiltrators. The ensuing firefight was intense, but Gopal Naidu's fearless leadership turned the tide. He closed in on one terrorist, killing him at close range and injuring another. As the firefight continued, he relentlessly pursued and eliminated three more terrorists, even narrowly escaping a grenade attack from a fifth assailant hidden in a cave.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites tenders in Two Stage System from eligible contractors for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount put to tender / EMD
	Office of the Chief Engineer(East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G.Road, Bangalore- 560 009.	
	IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(E)/ACE(E)-2/DCE(M)-I/TA(E)/2685/2024-25	Date: 14.08.2024
1.	Work of providing, laying and linking of 300mm dia MS pipeline and 100mm dia DI pipeline at K.H.Road from Mission Road to Lalbagh East for BBMP white topping work coming under Johnson Market Service Station of AEESE-1 Sub-Division.	Rs. 140.89 Lakhs / Rs.2.49 Lakhs
2.	Work of providing, laying and linking of 450mm, 300mm dia MS & 150mm dia DI water supply pipeline at Location (1) M.G. Road from Anil Kumble Circle to Trinity Circle Junction. (2) Residency Road from Richmond Circle to M.G. Road. (3) Palm Groove - KBAR Road from Victoria Road - Bazaar Street for proposed white topping work coming under CLR Service Sation of AEESE-1 Sub-Division.	Rs. 369.58 Lakhs / Rs. 6.54 Lakhs
3.	Work of providing, laying and linking of 600mm dia, 300mm dia MS pipeline from Mother Theresa Road to Old Race Course Road(From Richmond Road to Lower Agaram Road), Anepalya Main Road to NGV SWD for BBMP White Topping Work coming under Johnson Market Service Station of AEESE-1 Sub-Division.	Rs. 401.34 Lakhs / Rs. 7.10 Lakhs
4.	Work of providing, laying and linking of 300mm dia, 200mm dia MS pipeline and 100mm dia DI Water Supply Pipeline from Anepalya Main Road to NGV SWD, from L.R. Nagara Main Road from Hosur road to Ambedkar Nagara Main Road for BBMP White Topping Work coming under Johnson Market Service Station of AEESE-1 Sub-Division.	Rs. 401.44 Lakhs / Rs. 7.11 Lakhs
5.	Work of providing, laying and linking of 300mm dia, 200mm dia MS and 150mm dia DI water supply pipeline at Location (1) Ejipura Main Road from Vivekanagara Signal to IRR Road. (2) At Lower Agaram Road from ASC Junction to Ejipura Main Road for BBMP white topping work coming under CLR Service Sation of AEESE-1 Sub-Division.	Rs. 402.77 Lakhs / Rs. 7.09 Lakhs
	IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(E)/ACE(E)-2/DCE(M)-I/TA(E)/2689/2024-25	Date: 14.08.2024
6.	Work of replacement of CI pipe lines by DI pipe lines of 150mm, 100mm dia DI water supply pipe lines at 29th Main, BTM 2nd Stage from AXA Signal to Bannerughatta Road pertaining to BTM service station of AEESE-6 Sub-Division.	Rs. 247.78 Lakhs / Rs. 4.39 Lakhs
7.	Work of replacement of 100mm dia CI line by 100mm dia DI water supply pipe line at (a) From Sarjapura Road to Jakkasandra ORR, along 14th Main, HSR Layout, (b) From Wipro Signal to Ejipura Main Road along 80 feet road (c) Along 1st main road from Wipro Park junction to Sarjapura Road coming under Koramangala service station of AEESE-5 Sub-Division.	Rs. 253.54 Lakhs / Rs. 4.49 Lakhs
8.	Work of replacement of 230mm dia SW UGD pipe line by 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipe at (a) 1st Main Sarjapura Road from Jakkasandra to ORR (b) Along 1st main road from Wipro Park junction to Sarjapura Road coming under Koramangala service station of AEESE-5 Sub-Division.	Rs. 235.40 Lakhs / Rs. 4.17 Lakhs
9.	Work of providing and laying of 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipe line at 29th Main, BTM 2nd Stage from AXA Signal to Bannerughatta Road pertaining to BTM service station of AEESE-6 Sub-Division.	Rs. 240.71 Lakhs / Rs. 4.26 Lakhs
10.	Work of replacement of 230mm dia SW UGD line by RCC 300mm dia NP3 class pipe at along 80feet road from NGV Signal to Ejipura main road coming under Koramangala service station of AEESE-5 Sub-Division.	Rs. 254.95 Lakhs / Rs. 4.51Lakhs
11.	Work of replacement of 230mm dia SW UGD pipe line by 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipe at 80feet road from Wipro Park to NGV Signal coming under Koramangala service station of AEESE-5 Sub-Division.	Rs. 256.39 Lakhs / Rs. 4.54 Lakhs

For all above works, the last date for submission of completed tender documents is on: **31.08.2024 upto 16:00Hrs.** The Tenders will be opened on: **02.09.2024 after 17:00Hrs**.

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer(East).

DIPR/CP/RA/1486/2024-25

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (Only Through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender System from registered Agencies for the following works.

Sl No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
	Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavana, KG Road, Bengaluru- 560 009.	
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2677/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
1.	Work of Providing and Laying of 100mm Dia and 150mm Dia DI Pipeline at 20th Cross Road near Radhakrishna Kalyana Mantapa to Kodigehalli Main Road Sahakara Nagara, 18th Cross Amruthahalli to Kempegowda Circle and KV Jairam Jakkur Main Road to facilitate White Topping project coming under Sahakarnagara and Jakkur Service Station of AEEN-1-1 Jakkur Sub Division.	₹ 293.79 Lakhs / ₹ 4.41 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2678/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
2.	Work of Providing and Laying of 450mm, 300mm Dia, 100mm Dia MS& DI Water Pipeline in place of Old MS/CI Pipeline to facilitate the White Topping project in CBI Main road from Ballari Road to RT Nagar Main Road, Dinnur Main Road, Taralabalu Main Road from RT Nagar Main Road to Ballari Main road and Surrounding area coming under RT Nagar and Ganga Nagar Service Station of AEEN-1-2 Sub Division.	₹ 396.19 Lakhs / ₹ 5.94 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2679/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
3.	Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm Dia RCC NP3 Class Pipeline from CBI to Devegowda Road, Rabindranath Tagore Circle to along Tralabalu, LBS College to V. Nagenahalli Main Road near Nagenahalli Church to along Dinnur Main Road upto 80 Ft Road HMT Ground coming under RT Nagar Service Station of AEEN-1-2 Sub Division.	₹ 374.94 Lakhs / ₹ 5.62 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2680/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
4.	Work of Providing and Laying of 450mm, 300mm, 150mm Dia MS& DI Water Pipeline inplace of Old MS/DI Pipeline to facilitate the White Topping project in V.Nagenahalli Main Road from Bellary Road (Hebbal Flyover) to KHB Main Road and Surrounding areas coming under AEEN-1-2 Sub Division.	₹ 398.29 Lakhs / ₹ 5.97 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2681/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
5.	Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm RCC NP3 Class Sewer Line and construction of Machinholes at Part-1 Jakkur Double Road from Bellary Main Road Railway Parallel Road to Rashtrottana Junction. Part-2 20th Cross Road near Radhakrsihna Kalyana Mantapa Sahakarnagara to Kodigehalli Main Road near Royal Mart. Part-3 18th Cross Amruthahalli Main Road to Kempegowda Circle to Facilitate the White Topping project coming under Jakkur Service Station of AEEN-1-1 Sub Division.	₹ 173.03 Lakhs / ₹ 2.59 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2682/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
6.	Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm RCC NP3 Class Sewer Line from Pilekamma Temple near Hebbala Flyover to along V Nagenahalli Main Road upto Nagenahalli Church and from Nagenahalli Church to Kanakanagar Main Road near Pavithra Bar upto KHB Main Road, Rabindranath Tagore Circle to along Tralabalu Road to Bellary Road (White Topping) and Surrounding areas coming under AEEN-1-2 Sub Division	₹ 384.69 Lakhs / ₹ 5.77 Lakhs
	IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/2683/2024-25	Dated: 14.08.2024
7.	Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm, 200mm, 100mm Dia MS& DI Water Pipeline inplace of Old MS/CI Pipeline to facilitate the White Topping project in Sultanpalya Road Main Road from V.N Halli Road to LBS College Dinnur Road from Saibaba Temple 1st Main AGS Layout to RBI Colony and Surrounding area coming under AEEN-1-2 Sub Division	₹ 338.03 Lakhs / ₹ 5.07 Lakhs

For the above works The last date and time for Receipt of completed tenders will be on **31.08.2024** upto **16:00** hrs. The Bids opening is on **02.09.2024** after **15:00** hrs.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (North)

The details regarding participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours. DIPR/Spectrum/1468/2024-25

TELANGANA FOODS

IDA : NACHARAM : HYDERABAD - 500076
Phone No.27152207, 08 & 09

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION

No.TF/GG/Tender/RM/Film Rolls/1455/2024-25, Dt:14.08.2024

Telangana Foods invites e-Tenders for procurement of S-30 Gr.Sugar:5500 MTs, Bengalgram Dall (agmark): 5500 MTs, RBD-RPO:2400 MTs and Maize: 400 MTs. For details please visit website: **https://tender.eprocurement.gov.in** and website: **https://tfoods.telangana.gov.in**.

R.O.No.:333-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date:14.08.2024 Sd/- Managing Director

Aptus Finance India Private Limited

8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (Under Rule8 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Finance India Private Ltd** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **Demand notice dated 16-12-2023 calling upon the borrowers 1.Mr. Sridhar D K, 2.Mrs. Gowramma and 3.Mr. Chethan .K to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for SME LOAN in Loan Account No: TPEEN0005669 of Rs. 5,06,395/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Six Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Five Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule **on this 13th day of August, 2024.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Finance India Private Ltd for an amount of Rs. 4,82,099/-(Rupees Four Lakhs Eighty Two Thousand Ninety Nine Only) as on 31.07.2024** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:-

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property Site No1., Assessment No.83/24, Khatha No.285, Situated at Dasanapura village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Now comes under the limits of Dasanapura grama panchayatha measuring East to West 43 ft and North to South 22 ft in all measuring 946 Sq. ft and bounded on: by of land and building and all other appurtenances attached to the said property. **Boundaries: North By:** Property belongs to Appegowda, **South By:** Property belongs to Muniyappa, **East By** : Road, **West By:** Shamill.

Date: 13.08.2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Dasanapura Aptus Finance India Private Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client **M.Mahalakshmi** W/o Late Marideva Aged about 45 years residing at No.18/19, Byralingappa Road, Chikkasandra, Dasarahalli, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru, and others have filed the death petition for the death certificate of deceased by name as **MARIDEVARU, S/O LATE.NAGARAJACHAR as he was died on 20/07/2008 at Fruit Land, 30 Cross Road, Nrupathunga Layout, 1st Cross, R.T.Nagar, Bengaluru- 560032.** If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the Hon'ble **21st** A.C.M.M. Court **on 05/09/2024 at 11-00 AM in C. Misc. No. 7386/2024.**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE
21st ACMM, Bengaluru
PAVITHRA .R, ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE THAT our client R. Saraswathi W/o K.R. Nagabhooshan presently Residing at 207/2, Near Obala Reddy Home, Kodi Mahadevapura, Bengaluru-560046, She is intending to purchase the Site No.49, BBMP Khatha No.28/2/49, Property No.28/2, measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to South 16 Feet, in all measuring 460 Square Feet, along with house, situated at Kodigehalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, presently within the limits of BBMP along with all rights, appurtenances, whatsoever underneath or above the surface, purchasing from **Mr. C.B. Venkatesh,** and bounded on:-

East by : Site No.48, West by : Site No. 50, North by : Site No.42, South by : Road.

Mr. C.B. Venkatesh had acquired the same through a Sale deed dated 03.04.2013 Vide KRM-00094/2013-14 dated 03.04.2013 from **Mr. D.A. Sathyaprakash.**

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the Said Property and also in larger extent of the property by way of inheritance, sale, agreement, mortgage, lease, lien, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim and the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated as waived and not binding on our clients.

RBK legal, Advocates & Solicitors
FFD VI, 4th Floor, Sampoorna Chambers
Vasavi Temple Road, Bengaluru-560004.
Ph No. 080-42053588 / 42296969

QuoteExpress

NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN

BENJAMIN DISRAELI

PUBLIC NOTICE

To Whom It May Concern

This is to inform the general public that I, R. Shobha, W/o M. Chethan, residing at #1311, SAPTHAGIRI, 11 Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040, have lost the original title deed pertaining to the property located at Site# 2, Katha# 218, Andarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and Site # 3, Katha # 215, Andarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, which was executed on 22-November-1990, 7-July-1991 respectively and registered as document No. 4136/90-91, Book-1, Volume 4484, Page-91-95 and Document No. 5503/90-91, Book-1, Volume-4515, Page-72-75 respectively at Bangalore North Taluk sub-register.

The title deed was lost during transit on 03/07/2024, near Vijaynagar. Accordingly, a police report with effect to the same has been filed.

If found, kindly inform Mrs. R.Shobha, W/o M.Chethan Mobile Number 9886160569 immediately.

This notice is issued in the public interest to prevent any fraudulent claims or disputes regarding the aforementioned property.

Sd/- **R. Shobha**

THE ALL-NEW

TNIE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

APP

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

Google Play App Store

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS

Canara Bank

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)

J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bangalore
email:cb0492@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

1. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 71,23,095.77** (Rupees Seventy One lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Ninety Five and Paise Seventy seven Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. Mr. Ashit B. Kurbet,** Flat B 207, 'B' Block,, Casa Ansal Apartment JP Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078 and **2. Smt. Priyanka Koppad** W/o. Ashit Bhimappa Kurbet, No. B 207, 'B' Block, Casa Ansal Apartment JP Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078

Description of the immovable assets: (Rs.in lacs)

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Flat beraing No. 303, 1st Floor, " NEHA SADAN" apartment, located in proeprty beraing Site No. 7, Old Khata No. 193, Present BBMP New municipal No. 730/253/254/11/7, Sy. No. 11, situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South - 560 068.	54.67 Lacs	5.46 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

2. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 83,12,732.15** (Rupees Eighty Three lakhs Twelve Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Two and Paise Fifteen Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. Mr. Ashit B. Kurbet,** Flat B, 207, 'B' Block,, Casa Ansal Apartment JP Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078 and **2. Smt. Priyanka Koppad** W/o. Ashit Bhimappa Kurbet, No. B, 207, 'B' Block, Casa Ansal Apartment JP Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078

Description of the immovable assets: (Rs.in lacs)

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Flat beraing No. 106, 1st Floor, " NEHA SADAN" apartment, located in property beraing Site No. 7, Old Khata No. 193, Present BBMP New municipal No. 730/253/254/11/7, Ward No. 171, Sy. No. 11, situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South - 560 068.	52.56 Lacs	5.25 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

3. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 80,75,125.47**(Rupees Eighty lakhs Seventy Five Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Five and Paise Forty Seven Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. M/s. Harish Enterprises,** No. 268, 1st Floor, 11 B Cross, 20th main, JP Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078,
2. M. S. Harsih Babu, No. 268, 1st Floor, 11 B Cross, 20th main, JP Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078,
3.Vasantha (Guarantor), No. 268, 1st Floor, 11 B Cross, 20th main, JP Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078.

Description of the immovable assets: (Rs.in lacs)

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Site No. 1040, PID No. 1041/1040, BCC HS Layout, 5th Main, "A" Sector, Vajrahalli Hobli & Raghuvanahalli Village, Off Kanakapura Road, Bangalore South.	78.84 Lacs	7.88 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

4. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 77,13,373.01**(Rupees Seventy Seven lakhs Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Three and Paise One Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. Mr. Prashanth Gouda,** S/o Shekhar Gouda, No. 43, Janani Nilaya, 5th Cross, Manjunath Nagar, Raghvanahalli, Bangalore - 560 062. **2. Mrs. Kavya Prashanth Gouda,** W/o. Prashanth Gouda No. 43, Janani Nilaya, 5th Cross, Manjunath Nagar, Raghvanahalli, Bangalore - 560 062. **3. Nagaraju T., (Guarantor),** No. 156, Shanthi Vilas Layout, 1st Main Road, behind Church, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 060.

Description of the immovable assets:

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Residential Flat situated at Flat No. 107, (2 BHK), 1st Floor, facing West " NEHA SADAN" Apartment, Site No. 11, 11th main Road, AECS Layout, 'A' Block, Singasandra Village, Bangalore - 560 068.	38.00 Lacs	3.80 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

5. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 70,88,845.27** (Rupees Seventy lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Five and Paise Twenty Seven Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. Mr. Umesh Gowda,** S/o Ramappa, No. 94, Sonnenahalli Maruthi nagar, Bangalore , Karnataka- 560 056, **2. Mrs. Lakshmidevi T.,** W/o. Umesh R., No. 94, Sonnenahalli Maruthi nagar, Bangalore , Karnataka- 560 056,

Description of the immovable assets:

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Apartment bearing Flat No. 205, at 2nd Floor, of the building known as "NEHA SADAN" located in Site bearing No. 7, Old khata No. 193, Present BBMP New Municipal No. 730/253/254/11/7, Sy. No. 11, situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South - 560 068.	50.86 Lacs	5.08 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

6. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch,** of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and " Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024** (11.30 A.M. to 12.00A.M), for recovery of **Rs 83,07,787.24** (Rupees Eighty Three lakhs Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Seven and Paise Twenty Four Only) as on 13.08.2024 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase Branch, Bengaluru** of Canara Bank from **1. Mr. Mahesh Kumar S.** C/o. Ramappa, No. 12, Puttenahalli, Bangalore - 560 078. , S/o Ramappa, No. 94, Sonnenahalli Maruthi nagar, Bangalore , Karnataka- 560 056, **2. Mrs. Lakshmidevi T.,** W/o. Umesh R., No. 94, Sonnenahalli Maruthi nagar, Bangalore , Karnataka- 560 056,

Description of the immovable assets:

Lot	Description of the Immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1.	Flat No. 102, at 1st Floor, "NEHA SADAN" Apartment located in Property bearing Site No. 7, Old khata No. 193, Present BBMP New Municipal No. 730/ 253/ 254/11/7, Sy. No. 11, situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South - 560 068.	65.25 Lacs	6.52 Lacs	1.00 Lacs

The reserve price and Earnest Money Depost details are as mentioned above & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **30.08.2024** at 5.00 p.m. by way of DD favouring Authorised Officer Canara Bank J.P. Nagar II Phase Branch, or through online payment to Account No. 209272434 (IFSC CNRB0000492)

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website www.canarabank.com or may contact **Senior Manager,ARM -1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank,** Ph: No. 9627872626 and 94835332366 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date :13.08.2024 Canara Bank

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I, Bengaluru
4th FLOOR, BSNL BUILDINGS, RAJ BHAVAN ROAD
BENGALURU- 560001 080-22244324

SALE PROCLAMATION

FORM NO. 22 [See Regulation 37(1)]

PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULES 38, 52(2) OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993

DRC No. 14374 O.A.No. 260/2017

Between,
SVC Co-Operative Bank Ltd., - **Certificate Creditor**
Vs
M/s. Balaji Steels & Others. - **Certificate Debtor**

To, **The Certificate Debtors : (1) M/s. Sri. Balaji Steels,** A Partnership firm, No.3, Mariyappa Complex, Ganapathi Nagar, Rajagopal Nagar Main Road, Peenya 3rd Phase, Bengaluru-560 058. **(2) Smt. Saritha Mishra** W/o. Sri Sanjay Mishra, **(3) Sri. Gopal Mishra,** S/o. Sri Chandrasekhar, Sl No. 2 & 3 Residing at: Flat No:1301, Block-I, 3rd Floor, "ANRIYA ATRIEUS" Apartments, 25th Cross, 5th Block, 1st Stage, HBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560 043. **(4) Sri. A. Mohammed Ismail** S/o. Sri. Abdul Gaffar, No: 724, 9th Main, 3rd Stage, Pillanna Garden extension. Bengaluru-560 045. **(5) Smt. R. Nusrath Gulzar,** W/o. A.M.Akbar, No: 15, 9th Main, 3rd Stage, Pillanna Garden Extension, Bengaluru-560 045. **(6) Shri. Abdul Subhan,** since deceased represented by his legal heir **(1) Mrs. Fathima Bi,** W/o. Late Abdul Subhan, **(2) Mrs. Rohina Kousar,** D/o. Late Abdul Subhan, **(3) Mrs. Abida Sulthana,** D/o. Late Abdul Subhan, **(4) Mr. Asgar Pasha,** S/o. Late Abdul Subhan, **(5) Mr. Thanher Pasha** S/o. Late Abdul Subhan, Sl No 6(1) to 6(5) Residing at: No.04, Western extension, Santepete, Tumkur 572101.

The Under mentioned property will be sold by "Online electronic bidding" through the website https://drt.auctiontiger.net on 04.09.2024 between 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 am for Recovery of an amount of **Rs.19,27,98,648.19** (Rupees Nineteen Crore Twenty Seven Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Six Hundred Forty Eight and paisa Nineteen Only) including costs and interest thereon as on 30.11.2023. Plus interest and other charges from 01.12.2023 till realization of debt as per Recovery Certificate No 14374 bearing OA No. 260/2017.

Date and Time of Auction	04.09.2024, between 11.30AM to 12.30 PM
Reserve Price	Rs. 79,50,000/- (Rupees Seventy Nine Lakh Fifty Thousand Only).
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.7,95,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Only)
Last Date and Time for Bids/ Tender Submission :	On or before 02.09.2024 (03.00PM)
Bid Increase amount	Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only)

Schedule of Property: Residential Flat bearing No. 1301, in Block 1, on the Third Floor in **ANRIYA ATRIEUS APARTMENTS,** of all that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Byatarayanapur a CMC No. 708, Sy. No. 82, situated at Hennur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, now within the purview of BBMP bounded on the : East by: Land bearing Sy. No.83 ; West by: Land bearing Sy. No.80; North by: Land bearing Sy. No.81; and South by: Road and Land bearing Sy. No. 79, Measuring 1515 square feet of Super Built up area with all civic amenities along with one reserved car park space in the basement, along with 6.327 % of undivided share of land, standing in the name of Smt. Saritha Mishra, wife of Sri Sanjay Mishra and Sri Gopal Mishra, son of Sri Chandrasekhar Mishra.

For Terms and Conditions of sale: visit website of M/s. e-procurement Technologies Limited-auction Tiger at the web portal (https://drt.auctiontiger.net). Detailed Terms and Conditions of online auction sale are available in website (https://drt.auctiontiger.net). or for any other assistance email to ramprasad@auctiontiger.net). Helpline No.: +91 6351896834,+91 079 61200559/531/584/569/598.

For further details contact: Mr. Sarathy Somiah, Divisional Manager, Legal and Recovery of SVC Co operative Bank Ltd., Regional Office at No.1, 2nd Floor, Central Bank Road, Chamrajpet Bengaluru- 560018.(Contact Land Line No: 080 71231027/28/29/32) Mobile No. 7022374310 or Suma Krishnakanth, Asst. Manager, Contact No : 9886124682.

Given under my hand and seal on this **09th Day of August 2024**

Date : 09-08-2024 **Sd/- (P.H.HEMANTH KUMAR, IRS)**
Place : Bangalore **Recovery Officer - 2, DRT - 1, Bengaluru**

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI

HANUMANTHNAGAR BRANCH : #634 /61-99, 6th Main, 4th Cross, Dr. Shivaram Karanth Road, Hanumanthnagar, Bangalore - 560 019 **Tel.No.** 080- 22959481 / 22959482
Fax No. 080-26600424 | **E-Mail Id :** hanumanthngr.bengaluru@bankofindia.co.in

Ref : BOI/HNR/2024-25/SARFAESI **Date : 29-06-2024**

To,
Borrower
Mrs. Regila Iyyai Pillai
Marwan Building, Flat No 13, Salahuddin, (Behind Asiana Hotel) Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Dubai UAE - 557430.
Mrs. Regila Iyyai Pillai
No.11-116, South Peyodu, Azhagiyapandipuram Post Kanyakumari, Tamilnadu 629851
Mrs.Regila Iyyai Pillai
Flat No 110 In J J Elita,1st Floor Arekere range Nyanappanahalli division and village Bengaluru south taluk Bangalore 560076
Power of Attorney holder
Mr. Anil Subramani
No 29/A Flat no 1 GF 3rd Main 3rd cross Balajinagar, S G Palya, DRC POST Bangalore 560029
Sir,

NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

At the request made by you, Bank of India , Hanumanthnagar Branch(hereinafter referred to as "the bank" had granted a term loan (Star Home Loan) Under star pravasi facility with a limit of Rs. 1,15,00,000/- to you on 08.06.2022. We give hereunder details of credit facilities granted by us and the outstanding dues there under as on the date of this notice :

Nature of facility	Sanctioned Limit	Outstanding Dues
Term loan (Star Home Loan)	Rs. 1,15,00,000/-	Rs. 1,20,40,723.40 Rupees One Crore Twenty Lakhs Forty thousand seven hundred twenty-three and Forty paisa + uncharged interest @ 8.50 % p.a. from 30.05.2024 + Penal interest/ charges compounded with monthly rests and other charges

2. The aforesaid credit facilities granted by the Bank are secured by the following assets/securities (particulars of properties/assets charged to Bank).
a) Equitable mortgage of the immovable property bearing Residential apartment flat no 110, in J J Elita, first floor situated at BBMP Khatha no 602, Arekere sub range, Nyanappanahalli Division and Village, Bengaluru south taluk Bangalore Karnataka 560076 having super built up area of 1903 sqft together with one car parking and undivided share of 450 sqft in apartment land having equal rights in common area of the apartment situated at old Sy no 44 New no's 44/1 ,44/2,44/3 & 44/4 present BBMP Khatha no 602, at BBMP Arekere Sub range, Nyanappanahalli Village owned by Mrs. Regilla Iyyai Pillai. Boundaries of the Property: East: Nyanappanahalli Main Road West: Private Property North: Private Property South: Nyanappanahalli Hulimavu Road Boundaries of the Flat : East : Flat No.111, West: Flat No.109, North: Flat No.102 and South: Open the Sky
3. As you have defaulted in repayment of your dues to the Bank under the said credit facilities, we have classified your account as Non-Performing Asset with effect from 28.06.2024 in accordance with the directions/guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India.
4. For the reasons stated above, we hereby give you notice under Section 13(2) of the above noted Act and call upon you to discharge in full your liabilities by paying to the Bank sum of Rs.1,20,40,723.40 Rupees One Crore Twenty Lakhs Forty thousand seven hundred twenty-three and Forty Paisa O/s as on date of notice with Uncharged interest thereon @..8.50 % p.a. from 30.05.2024 compounded with monthly rests and Penal interest / charges and all other costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank, till date of repayment by you within a period of 60 days from the date of this notice, failing which please note that we will entirely at your risks as to costs and consequences exercise the powers vested with the Bank under Section13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, against the secured assets mentioned above.
5. While we call upon you to discharge your liability as above by payment of the entire dues to the Banks together with applicable interest, all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank till repayment and redeem the secured assets, within the period mentioned above, please take important note that as per section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, the right of redemption of Secured assets will be available to you only till the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tender from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets.
6. The amounts realised from exercising the powers mentioned above, will firstly be applied in payments of all costs, charges and expenses which are incurred by us and/ or any expenses incidental thereto, and secondly in discharge of the Bank's dues as mentioned above with contractual interest from 30-05-2024 till the date of actual realisation and the residue of the money, if any, after the Bank's entire dues (including under any of your other dues to the Bank whether as borrower or guarantor) are fully recovered, shall be paid to you.
7. If the said dues are not fully recovered from the proceeds realised in the course of exercise of the said powers against the secured assets, we reserve our right to proceed against you and your other Assets including by filing legal/recovery actions before Debts Recovery Tribunal/Courts for recovery of the balance amount due along with all costs etc. incidental thereto from you.
8. Please take note that as per Sub-Section (13) of the aforesaid Act, after receipt of this notice, you are restrained from transferring or creating any encumbrances on the aforesaid secured assets whether by way of sale, lease, license, gift mortgage or otherwise.
9. The undersigned is a duly Authorised Officer of the Bank to issue this notice and exercise powers under section 13 of the aforesaid Act.
10. Needless to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other right or remedy available to the Bank.

Sd/-
Chief Manager and Authorized Officer

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A scheduled commercial bank) | Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**, by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset**, whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Vishwanatha N, Prop. M/s. N N Fashion, Also at: M/s. N N Fashion, 2) Mr. Narayanaswamy M	Loan Account No. 30139440000500 Loan Amount: Rs.15,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property: Schedule-II (Description of the Property):** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.124, Khatha No.646, converted Sy.No.48, Measuting 1 Acre 34 Guntas, Duly Converted For non-agricultural residential purpose vide order bearing No.ALN.(EBB)SR/100/2012-13 dated 16.11.2012, issued by the Commissioner of Revenue Bangalore District, Bangalore Situated at K. R. Amogha Residential Layout, Kammasandra Village, Bidarahalli Hobali, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore and **Bounded on: East by:** 25 feet wide Road, **West by:** Site No.118 & 119, **North by:** Site No.125, **South by:** Site No.123. **Measuring:** East to West: Northern side 41 Feet, Southern side 41 Feet and North to South: Eastern side 43 feet, Western side:43 feet, total measuring 1763 Sq.feet.	Date of NPA: 01-08-2024 Demand Notice Date: 13-08-2024	Rs.14,78,722.54 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Two and Paisa Fifty Four Only) due as on 07-08-2024

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 16.08.2024, Place: Bangalore — **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

APTUS — Aptus Value Housing Finance India Limited

8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd.** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the SecurityInterest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon theborrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice beingwithin60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and thepublic in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property describedherein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No.	Borrower/s/ Co-borrower/s & Guarantors Name	Description of the Mortgaged Properties	Demand Notice		Date and Type of Possession Taken
				Date	Outstanding Amount (Rs.)	
1	APEEN 0116915	1.Mr. Honnagangaiah S and 2.Mrs. Mangalamma M,	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing No.261/20, Sl No.193, situated at Shivagange Village, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, presently comes under the limits of the Sompura Village Panchayath, measuring East to West 50 ft and North to South 40 ft, totally 2000 Sq ft and **bounded on:** of land and building and all other appurtenances attached to the said property. **Boundaries: North By:** Property belongs to Rudresh, **South By:** Road, **East By:** House belongs to Gangayya, **West By:** Others Property.	19-01-2024	**Rs. 8,62,437/-** (Rupees Eight Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Seven Only) as on 31.07.2024	13-08-2024 Symbolic Possession
2	APEEN 0127578	1.Mr. Muniyappa, 2.Mrs. Siddarajamma and 3.Mr. KartikKe	All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing E-Khata No.150300700400300043, Khaneshumari Khata No.49/1, Situated at Kenchanapura Village, Kodigehalli Grama Panchayath, Thyamagondlu Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. of land and building and all other appurtenances attached to the said property. **Boundaries: North By:** House belongs to Ballamma, **South By:** Property belongs to Siddamma, **East By:** Road, **West By:** Property belongs to badraiah and Dasappa.	18-05-2024	**Rs. 9,10,558/-** (Rupees Nine Lakhs Ten Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Eight Only) as on 31.07.2024	13-08-2024 Symbolic Possession

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd.**, The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 13.08.2024 — **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Shivagange and Kenchanapura — **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Limited**

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Only through KPP portal)

BWSSB invite tenders in Two Stage Tender System from Eligible Contractors for the the below mentioned works.

Name of Work	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore-560009	
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2712/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing and Laying & linking 450 x 200 x 100 mm dia water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficeincy and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed at Airforce gate to Nagashettyhalli busstop via Sanjaynagar Main road by linking to the all subscrosses coming under Sanjaynagar Service Station of A.E.E.NE-2 Sub Division	Rs.383.54 Lakhs / Rs.5.75 Lakhs
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2713/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing, Laying & linking 450 x 200 x 100 mm dia water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficeincy and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed at 1) Platform road from T junction on vatal nagaraj road to mantrimall 2) Link road from sampige road (big bazaar junction) to sheshadripuram 3) subedar chatram road to rajivgandhi circle coming under Kumarapark S/stn of A.E.E.NE-2 Sub Division	Rs.350.95 Lakhs / Rs.5.26 Lakhs
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2714/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing and Laying & linking 450mm x 200mm x 100mm dia water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficeincy and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed at 1) Jeevaraj Alva Road (10th Main) Sadashivanagar to Vinayaka Circle via Bashyam Circle 2) Jayamahal Road (TV Tower) to Tagore circle 3) Hebbala Fly Over to Nagashettyhalli Junction of Bhoopasandra Main Road coming under A.E.E.NE-2 Sub Division	Rs.316.50 Lakhs / Rs.4.75 Lakhs
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2715/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing and Laying of a) 200mm & 100mm dia DI pipeline in place of old damaged CI line at Vatal Nagaraj road b) 100mm dia, 300mm dia. DI water Pipeline & 450mm dia. MS waterline at 8th main road to Chitrapura mutt & 8th Main Road to 18th cross junction to 11th main junction, Malleshwaram (RHS) c) 100mm dia & 300 mm dia. DI water pipeline & 450mm dia, MS waterline at 8th Main road to Chitrapura mutt & 8th main road to 18th cross junction to 11th main junction, Malleshwaram (LHS) coming under A.E.E.NE-1 Sub Division	Rs.201.88 Lakhs / Rs.3.03 Lakhs
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2716/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm dia RCC line at both sides of the Roads at 1) Malleshwaram 8th main road from 18th cross to chitrapura Matt & 8th main Road Malleshwaram from 18th cross junction to 11th Main junction b) Bashyam circle to 2nd Main road Vayalikaval through Vinayaka Circle PG Halli Main Road - LHS coming under Malleshwaram Sub Station of AEENE-1 Sub Division.	Rs.184.26 Lakhs / Rs.2.76 Lakhs
IFT No.BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-I/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)2717/2024-25	**Date: 14.08.2024**
Work of Providing and Laying of 300mm dia RCC NP-3 sewer line to facilitate white topping a) from Airforce junction to Nagashetyhalli Busstop via sanjaynagar Main Road by connecting all subscrosses laterals coming under Sanjaynagar Service Station b) from Hebbala Fly over to Nagashettihalli junction of Bhoopsandra main road by connecting all subcrosses laterals coming under Sanjaynagar Services Station c) Jayamahal Road TV tower to Tagor circle coming under jayamahal service station d) Platform Road from T junction on vatal nagaraj road to mantri mall coming under kumara park service station e) Link road from sampige road big bazar junction to sheshadripuram Main Road coming under kumara park service station f) Subedar chatram road to rajivgandhi circle coming under kumara park service station of A.E.E.NE-2 Sub Division..	Rs.363.12 Lakhs / Rs.5.45 Lakhs

For the above works Last date and time for Receipt of tenders will be on **31.08.2024 upto 15.00 hrs.** Tender will be opened on: **02.09.2024 after 16.00 hrs** — **Sd/- Chief Engineer (North)**

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/KAVITA/1487/2024-25

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited

(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
e-Mail: contactus@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that 33kV cables running along the BMRCL viaduct and 750 V DC Third Rail laid on the viaduct section at the following locations is in charged condition with effect from **16.08.2024**.

(i) Reach 3 Extension Section Between BMRCL's **Nagasandra Station Buffer End to BIEC Station Buffer End** [Manjunath Nagar Station, Jindal Station and BIEC Station Buffer End].

Any direct contact with 750 V DC Third Rail or 33kV cables could be Fatal. Hence public at large are cautioned not to enter the viaduct in these areas without authorization. BMRCL will not be responsible for any injury or casualty arising out of this unauthorized act.

This is issued in the interest of Public Safety.

Sd/- Executive Director (Traction), BMRCL.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Adv. Ramesh Khapare

IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE (S. D.) BELAPUR AT NAVI MUMBAI
CIVIL MISC. APPLICATION NO. 211/2023

1. Smt. Santhamma Gopalakrishnan Nair. R/at: Flat No. 306, Vaigyanik CHS Ltd. Plot Nos. 58 & 59, Sector-14, Vashi, Navi Mumbai-400 703.
2. Mr. Vinodkumar Gopalakrishnan Nair, R/at: Flat No. 404, Siddhivinayak Mandir CHS Ltd, Plot No. 108, Sector-29, Vashi, Navi Mumbai-400 703 **.....Applicants**

V/s

1. Mrs. Vidya Sureshkumar, R/at: Flat No. S-1, Sai Guru Apartment, Near Jubilee Bakery, Mohan Nagar, Nagpur, Maharashtra-440 001,
2. Mr. Vinay Gopalakrishnan Nair. R/at: Flat No. 306, Vaigyanik CHS Ltd, Plot Nos. 58 & 59, Sector-14, Vashi, Navi Mumbai-400 703 **....Opponents**

THAT, Late, Shri. Kottakuzhikal Raman Gopalakrishnan Nair, who expired on 09/10/2019, at Vashi, Navi Mumbai, the descriptions of the Properties are in the name of deceased herein:-

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

a) Flat No. B-16, on the Sixth Floor, in the Society's Building known as **"PARK VIEW CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY LTD",** situated on **Bhagat Singh Road, at Kastrurchand Park (P.O.), Nagpur - 440001.**
b) All the amounts deposited and lying deposited alongwith fixed deposits thereof, if any, in Saving Bank Account No. 870010100023371, with Bank of India, Kingsway Branch, Nagpur, which is jointly held with me.
c) All the amounts deposited and lying deposited alongwith fixed deposits thereof, if any, in Pension Account No. 870012100030691, with Bank of India, Kingsway Branch, Nagpur, which is jointly held with me.
d) All the amounts deposited and lying deposited alongwith fixed deposits thereof, if any, in Saving Bank Account No. 008910110012629, with Bank of India, Sector 16, Vashi, Branch, Navi Mumbai, which is jointly held with me.
e) Ownership Rights and Membership Rights vide Membership No. 200524, in respect of Dwelling Unit, which is under Construction, booked /acquired/purchased in the proposed Group Housing Scheme, being built by Indian Railway Welfare Organization (IRWO), situated at Rail Vihar, Bengaluru.

Whereas, the above named Applicants have filed Misc. Application for issuance of Letter of Administration under the Provisions of Hindu Law of Succession in the Court of Civil Judge (S.D.) Belapur, Navi Mumbai.

You the member of public are hereby given notice to appear in the Court of Civil Judge (S.D.) Belapur, Navi Mumbai, in person or pleader duly instructed and to file your say/objection if any within **30 (Thirty) days** from the date of publication of this public notice failing which the said application will be held presuming that there is no objection from anybody and the application will be finally decided.

Given under the hand & seal of the court of this **14th August 2024**

SD/- — **By Order**
Jr. Clerk — **Assistant Superintendant**
Civil Court S.D. Belapur — **Civil Judge (S.D.) Belapur,**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Udupi

"Rajathadri", B Block, 1st floor, Room No B-208, Manipal, Udupi.

NO:EE/RWSSDU/TenderNo.02/2024-25/JE-1/647 Dated: 12.08.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Governor of Karnataka in "TWO COVER SYSTEM" through Government of Karnataka KPP portal for "Providing operation and Maintenance (O&M) for Multi village water supply scheme to Nada, Senapura, Badakere and Hadavu village of Nada GP and 29 habitation of Kundapura Taluk in Udupi District." Eligible service provider shall apply for this tender through KPP portal.

Calender Of Events

1. The Contractor can download the Tender document from : 12.08.2024
2. Last Date for Submission of tenders : 20.08.2024 4.00 PM
3. Opening of Technical Bid for the Tenders : 21.08.2024 4.30 PM
4. Opening of Finanacial Bid for the Tenders : 22.08.2024 5.00 PM

The blank tender documents can be viewed or downloaded from E-proc portal, Details of work/eligibility of contractor/Tender processing fees/dates of events etc. can be had from website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Further information can be had from the undersigned during office hours. Right of acceptance of tender is reserved.

KPP portal helpdesk: 080-22371090/22373788
Hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com

Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Udupi

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

CANARA BANK

Regional Office East, Bengaluru

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and/or Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank, will be sold on the basis of "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **31.08.2024,** for recovery of below mentioned amount.

E-AUCTION DATE: 31.08.2024

1. Borrower/s: Mr. Abrarul Haque S/o Naseemul Ghani. **Co-borrower(s): Mr. Rizwan Khan** C/o Rafeeque Khan, **Both are residing at:** No. 25, 2nd Floor, 2nd A Cross, Kanakanagar, Bengaluru - 560032 for recovery of **Rs. 1,07,29,175.14/-** (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand One Hundred Seventy Five and Paisa Fourteen Only) as on **11.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Viveknagar Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Residential 2 BHK flat bearing No. FF-10, @ Present CMC Khatha No.10665/5382/8300/8301/ 136/1,3,4/c/4th F-FF-5, 4th Floor, "C" Block, S2 "HOMES – THE WATER-GROOVE" Constructed on Converted land bearing Sy. Nos. 136/3,136/4 & 136/1 old VP No. 8300/136/3,8301/136/4, CMC Khatha No. 5382/136/1, Project known as "S2 Homes – THE WATERGROOVE" situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist measuring 2021 sq.ft of super builtup area of apartment, 1353 sq.ft of builtup area along with 493 sq.ft of undivided share,right, title and interest in the entire land measuring 1 acre 22 guntas with one car parking space and the flat. **Boundaries: East:** Corridor, **West:** Open space, **North:** Flat No.FF 11, **South:** Flat No.FF 09. **Name of the Title Holder:** Mr. Abrarul Haque.
Reserve Price: Rs. 59,58,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 5,95,800/-.

2. Borrower/s: Mr. Mohammed Ismail Faiz S/o Abdul Khader Jailani. **Co-borrower(s): Mrs. Fathima Hira** W/o Mohammed Ismail Faiz, **Both are residing at:** No. 14, 5th Cross, Kanakanagar, Bengaluru - 560032 for recovery of **Rs. 87,19,429.78/-** (Rupees Eighty Seven Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Nine and Paisa Seventy Eight Only) as on **08.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Indiranagar I Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All the piece and parcel of residential plot bearing No. 53 and forming part of schedule A property, carved out of residentially converted survey No. 7/1, in the layout known as "Manar Pure Earth", and measuring East to West 12 mtr. and North to South 09 mtr., totally measuring 108 Sq.mtr. (1163 Sq. ft.). **Boundaries: East:** Site No.62, **West:** Road, **North:** Site No.54, **South:** Site No.52. **Name of the Title Holder:** Mr. Mohammed Ismail Faiz.
Reserve Price: Rs. 35,40,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 3,54,000/-.

3. Borrower/s: 1.Sri Harish, S/o Sri Srinivasa (Alias Seenappa), **2. Smt Lakshmamma,** W/o Sri Srinivasa (Alias Seenappa), **3. Sri Suresh,** S/o Sri Srinivasa (Alias Seenappa), **All are residing at:** Site No 32, Sy No. 322/2, Maruthinagar, RK Layout, Bagalur Main Road, Sarjapura Village, Hobli, Anekal, Bengaluru - 562125. **Guarantor/s: Sri P Raghavendra,** S/o Papanna, 305, 3rd cross, Sarjapura,Attibele, Bengaluru - 562107 for recovery of **Rs. 13,36,125.12/-** (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Twenty Five and Paisa Twelve Only) as on **12.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Attibele Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All the piece and parcel of Residential property bearing Site No. 32, E-Khatha No. 150200102300121572, Sl. No. 2697, Property 1259/32, Sy. No. 322/2, situated at Sarjapur Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District. Extending East to West 40 ft. and North to South 30 ft. Total admeasuring 1200 sqft. **Boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Site No.19, **North:** Site No.31, **South:** Site No.33. **Name of the Title Holder:** Harish, Lakshmamma & Suresh. **Reserve Price:** Rs. 61,50,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 6,15,000/-.

4. Borrower/s: 1. Mrs. Triveni M, W/o Ramanjinappa, **2. Mr. Ramanjinappa,** S/o Gangappa, **Both are residing at:** Doddahagade Village, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562106. **Guarantor: Mr. Ranganath G,** S/o Govindappa, Village Marsur, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562106. For recovery of **Rs.2,69,586.76/-** (Rupees Two Lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Seventy Six Only) as on **12.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Marsur Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All the piece and parcel of Site No. 22, Survey No. 53 of Doddahagade Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru - 562106 with the extent of site measuring 600 Sq Ft. **Boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Site No.27, **North:** Site No.21, **South:** Site No.23. **Reserve Price:** Rs. 6,07,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 60,700/-.

5. Borrower/s: Mr. Chandra, S/o Anantha Shettigar, Flat No: ALR-B19-202 Alur BDA Layout, Huskur Road, Bengaluru. **Also at:** Door No: 249, Adugodi,Nanjappa Layout, II Main, Bengaluru – 560030. **Guarantor/s: Mr Achutha Shettigar,** S/o Bheema Shettigar, No.24, 16th Main, 7th Cross, Overline Road, Kurubarahalli, JC Nagar, Bengaluru-576226 for recovery of **Rs. 4,39,109.84/-** (Four Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand One Hundred Nine and Eighty Four Paisa Only) as on **08.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Koramangala J Block Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All the piece and parcel of the residential property bearing flat No. ALR B19 202, consisting of 1 BHK which is formed by the BDA in the layout ALUR at Huskur Road, Bengaluru. **Boundaries: East:** B19/203, **West:** Road, **North:** Block No. 18, **South:** B 19 / 201.
Reserve Price: Rs. 15,59,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 1,55,900/-.

6. Borrower/s: Mr. Mallikarjuna Shetty R, Flat No.102, Door No.79, Vishal Apartments, 2 EAT Street, Near Puliyogare Point, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004. **Also At:** Site No. 206, Sy. No. 16,17,18 and 19, Visvesvaraya Road, Girinagar 4th Phase, Gere Halli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru -562123. **Co-Borrower(S): Mrs Sujatha N,** W/o Mr. Mallikarjuna Shetty R, Flat No.102, Door No. 79, Vishal Apartments, 2 EAT Street, Near Puliyogare Point, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004. **Also At:** No. 27 (Old No. 26), Shop Street, N R Colony, Bengaluru - 560004 for recovery of **Rs.75,95,915.25/-** (Rupees Seventy Five Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen and Paisa Twenty Five Only) as on **11.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Jigani Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Residential Plot bearing No. 49 and forming part of Schedule A property, carved out of residentially converted Survey No. 7/1, in the Layout known as 'MANAR PURE EARTH' and measuring East to West 12 Mtrs and North to South 9 Mtrs, totally measuring 108 Sq Mtrs (1163 Sqft). **Boundaries: East:** Site No.66, **West:** Road, **North:** Site No.50, **South:** Site No.48. **Name of the Title Holder:** Mr Mallikarjuna Shetty R.
Reserve Price: Rs. 43,44,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 4,34,400/-.

7. Borrower/s: 1.R Ranjeth, S/o N Rajendran, **Co-Borrower(S): 1. N Rajendran, 2. R Rajesh,** S/o N Rajendran, **All are residing at:** No 202 A Block SBI Staff, Quarters Binny Mill Garden, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560023
for recovery of **Rs.47,15,665.79/-** (Rupees Forty Seven Lakh Fifteen Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Five and Paise Seventy Nine Only) as on **08.08.2024** with further interest and charges thereon due to **Ulsoor Branch** of Canara Bank.
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of No-1, New Municipal No-2/3-2, Sy No-220, BBMP Khatha PID No-85-47-2/3-2, Nanjundappa Garden, Cox Town, Doddigunta, Sarvagna Nagar, Bengaluru - 560005. **Boundaries: East:** Drain, **West:** Land of Nanjundappa and others, **North:** Land of Nanjundappa and others, **South:** Anjanappa's land with common passage of 4 feet leading to the road. **Name of the Title Holder:** Mr. R Ranjeth, Mr N Rajendran and Mr R Rajesh. **Reserve Price:** Rs. 54,70,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 5,47,000/-.

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank. The intending bidders shall deposit Earnest Money deposit (EMD) by way of DD favouring Authorised Officer Canara Bank, Bengaluru or through online (RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer) to the credit of the account number 209272434, on or before **23.08.2024 by 4.00 pm. Date of the E-Auction 31.08.2024.** For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website: **www.canarabank.com** or may contact The Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Bengaluru during office hours on any working day.

Sd/-
Date: 15-08-2024 — **Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru — **Canara Bank**

Form No. URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI
[Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorized to Register) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar Of Companies, 'E' Wing, 2nd Floor, Kendriya Sadana, Kormangala, Banglore-560034, Karnataka that Poinciana Properties LLP a LLP may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.
2. The principal objects of the company are as follows:

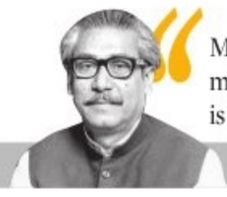
(i) To carry on the business as builders, property developers, civil, mechanical and labour contractors, building and erection engineers, dealers in, importers, exporters and manufactures of prefabricated and precast houses, materials, tools, implements, machinery and metal ware in connection therewith or incidental thereto and to carry on any other business that is customarily, usually and conveniently carried ontherewith in or outside India and to purchase, acquire, take on lease, rent or in exchange or in any other lawful manner any area, land, buildings, structures and to turn the same into account, develop the same dispose off or maintain the same, to sell the same on ownership, installment or transfer rent or lease such properties to limited companies, association of persons and/ or any individuals or any other persons as the case may be.
(ii) To carry on the business of development of hi-technology industrial parks, residential townships, commercial or industrial layouts, group housing gardens, orchards, vocational training centres, leisure parks, conventioncenters and development of other infrastructural facilities and to act as Project Management Consultants, technical consultants and advisors in all matters relating to rural and urban infrastructural developments works of every description such as flats, apartments, multistoried complexes, houses, bunglows, shopping arcade, quarters, hotels, resorts, motels, service apartments and the like on any land of the company or upon any other lands or property.
(iii) To acquire by purchase, lease, exchange, hire or otherwise hold, manage, work, develop the resources of land and turn to account any estates, land, buildings, tenements and other property of every description, whether freehold or leasehold or other tenure and where so ever situate and any interests therein and rights connected therewith and in particular to acquire or take over certain estates situated in India or outside and all or any parts thereon and other assets used in therewith.
(iv) To carry on the business of project management and consultancy for all types of construction, development and project management work in all its branches such as industrial plants, machinery, warehouses, factories, buildings, structures, drainage & sewage works, water distribution and sewage systems, foundation works, roads, power supply works, power stations, hotels, hospitals, complexes, housing projects, laboratories, cold storages, showrooms, shops and other similar work.

3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at IMAGINE, No.78 ITPL Main Road, EPIP Zone Whitefield, Bangalore Karnataka 560 066.
4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Registrar of Companies, 'E' Wing, 2nd Floor, Kendriya Sadana, Kormangala, Bangalore – 560 034, Karnataka, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Dated this 16 day of August, 2024

Name of Applicants:
1. Kamal Sagar _____
(For Total Environment Building Systems Private Limited)
2. Shibanee Sagar_____
(For Tangled Up in Green Properties Private Limited)
3. Kamal Sagar _____
(Designated Partner)
4. Shibanee Sagar_____
(Designated Partner)

EDITORIAL



My greatest strength is the love for my people, my greatest weakness is that I love them too much

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

NO TIME FOR POLITICS ON TUNGABHADRA DAM, GUWAHATI FLOODS

A sluice gate of the Tungabhadra dam in Karnataka's Koppal district was washed away last week, leading to a flood alert and opening the floodgates of blame politics. It resulted in the loss of a large amount of water that could spell disaster for downstream districts in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. While work on fixing a temporary crest gate is expected to be completed by the weekend, over 8,000 million cubic feet of water has already been released.

There is much politicking over who was responsible for the 45-tonne gate coming unhinged after a chain broke. Leaders are pointing at each other with allegations of "mismanagement" and "lack of maintenance" during their rival's tenure. The opposition BJP and JDS went after the Congress government for its "negligence" and accused Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar of being "too busy working for the Gandhis" to worry about his water resources portfolio. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah assured farmers that there would be no scarcity of water in upstream areas and that he did not want to blame anyone, but made an oblique observation that the chairperson of the Tungabhadra Board is appointed by the central government. This finger-pointing is akin to the politics in Assam, where Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma accused a private university in Meghalaya of "flood jihad", saying the university had deliberately demolished hills on its campus leading to water-logging in Guwahati.

The 70-year-old Tungabhadra project irrigates 9,26,000 acres in Karnataka, 6,25,000 acres in Andhra Pradesh and 87,000 acres in Telangana. With more rain forecast for the next two months in Karnataka and the reservoir of the 1,633-ft dam near the brim, the focus should be on saving farmers and their hard work. Last year, they had to contend with a severe drought and poor yield; this year they could lose standing crops. The state should look at maintenance issues of dams, many of them standing for decades, and bring in the best technical expertise for desilting to improve storage. Every natural calamity or accident should serve to bring out the best in people. The Wayanad tragedy in Kerala was one such example of the Centre and state working together, ready to forget their bitter differences. Similarly, it is hoped that politicians set aside their pettiness for the welfare of the state. Politics can wait.

TELANGANA NEEDS FASTER INVESTMENT CLEARANCES

TELANGANA Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has just concluded his third foreign visit since assuming office last December and, within a day after his return, announced the final tranche of crop loan waivers, fulfilling a major poll promise. On the face of it, it reflects a fine balance between welfare and development.

His visit to the US and South Korea underlined the government's proactive approach to burnish the image of Hyderabad as an attractive investment destination. If one goes by the memorandums inked during the tour, the state has been promised investments of up to ₹31,532 crore. Seen together with the other MoUs signed earlier in his stint, the potential investments are over ₹81,564 crore. Even if half of them materialise, we can consider the chief minister's efforts successful. For that to happen, the government should put in place a mechanism to expedite approvals. The previous BRS regime was also proactive in attracting investors, domestic and foreign, with the then IT minister K T Rama Rao setting a benchmark. It brought in the TS-iPass system for speedy clearances. The Revanth Reddy government ought to improve on it as it is contemplating a new industrial policy. It needs to look at corruption prevalent in the lower levels for the state to consistently top the ease-of-doing-business rankings. It will give more confidence to investors.

On the flip side, the CM's US visit courted unnecessary controversy with the BRS accusing Revanth of signing an agreement with Swachh Bio, one of whose directors happens to be his own brother. There may be nothing wrong in it from a business perspective, but it raises questions about conflict of interest. The government needs to be very transparent in its dealings. The other criticism is that Revanth and team could not meet top business honchos in the US. Did his support staff fall short? In our view, it is unfair to say so, as a lot of effort has clearly gone into organising the meetings. Nonetheless, these things have given an opening to the opposition to term the tour a flop. The problem for the government lies in communication. It has failed in properly conveying to the people what the CM's team has achieved. Even the Congress has not been able to effectively counter the opposition onslaught. The CM needs to focus as much on communication as on investors.

QUICK TAKE

THE IMPORTANCE OF KURSK

THE battle of Kursk in the summer of 1943 was one of the main turning points of the Second World War. It was here that Hitler's vaunted Panzer forces were surrounded and repelled by the Soviets. Last week, Ukraine seized large swathes of Russian territory around Kursk in a surprise offensive. Perhaps learning from history or being aware of their own limitations, the Ukrainians later withdrew from some of the territory while maintaining a toehold, prompting Moscow to evacuate at least 200,000 people and rush in reserves. Rather than intensifying the war, we hope Kursk will again prove to be an inflection point that pushes the two sides towards a resolution.

Muhammad Yunus has the confidence of the students and opposition parties for now. But it's not yet clear how long his interim government would take to hold elections

THE LONG ROAD BACK TO DEMOCRACY IN BANGLADESH

FARID HOSSAIN

Editor of *United News of Bangladesh* based in Dhaka

SOURAV ROY

AFTER a student-led upsurge ended former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 15-year rule early this month, Bangladesh installed its most famous citizen—Nobel peace laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus—as its interim leader until a new election is held. Yunus, 84, has the backing of the country's powerful military and the endorsement of a group of anti-Hasina political parties that suffered during her rule characterised by high-handedness, widespread corruption, and denial of a free and fair national vote for years. Yunus, founder of Grameen Bank, is known as a "banker to the poor". He is credited with pulling out millions of Bangladeshis, mostly women, from poverty by giving them small loans to start businesses.

Ironically, on August 5—the day Sheikh Hasina stepped down and left for India before tens of thousands of protesters overran her official residence in Dhaka—Yunus was set for a court appearance to answer charges of embezzling over $2 million from Grameen Telecom, an allegation he has always denied. He could have been handed a long jail term in addition to the six-month imprisonment (granted bail) he was given earlier for alleged violation of labour laws. Since his taking over as chief advisor to the interim government, all the cases—up to 190 filed by Hasina's government—have been withdrawn. "The monster is gone," exulted Yunus, referring to his bitter critic Hasina, who would dismiss him as a "bloodsucker of the poor".

Yunus's first week in power saw him grappling to restore law and order, reorganising the battered administration and reaching out to minorities, especially the Hindus who suffered mob attacks on their homes, businesses and temples in parts of the country. "We are one family, no room for division," he reassured Hindu leaders during a visit to the Dhakeshwari temple in downtown Dhaka. "Establishing people's democratic rights and human rights is the main goal of this government."

Meanwhile, the Yunus-led interim government is talking more about "fixing the state" and reaping benefits of what has been called "the second independence", than a plan to hold national elections and hand over power to elected representatives. Fixing the state means cleansing institutions such as the judiciary, Election Commission, Anti-Corruption Commission, government administration, universities and the central bank of Awami League loyalists.

As Yunus's law advisor Asif Nazrul put it: "We are caught in the middle of two aspirations: the political parties want us to hold an election as soon as possible, while the people want us to reform the system." His remarks come amid speculation that this interim administration may stay longer than expected—from two to six years. The Gen-Z that spectacularly deposed the longest-serving female prime minster in the world seems to be in no mood to let the politicians return soon and rule the nation of 170 million people. They have succeeded in getting two of their representatives, Nahid Islam and Asif Mahmud Sajib Bhuiyan, both 26 years old, into the Yunus-led 17-member council of advisors.

Yunus is also mulling having student representatives as assistant advisors in all ministries to ensure that the movement's goal of building a clean and transparent administration does not get derailed. In their scheme, they see no role of the existing political parties, which they find rotten and selfish. This may sound odd and idealistic, but Yunus and his team are heeding what the students are saying. For example, the students reacted angrily when home affairs advisor Brig Gen (Retd) Sakhwat Hossain praised the Awami League's role in the country's 1971 war of liberation and advised the "good people" in the party to reorganise and prepare for polls. The students are now waging a street campaign to keep vigil against the advisors' activities.

But with the Awami League in disarray, Yunus has been able to persuade the key contenders for power, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and its long-time ally Jamaat-e-Islami, to give him enough time to create an environment conducive to free and fair election—something Bangladesh has not seen since 2014. The big question, however, is how long they will wait. Right now, these parties, together with the extremist Islamic outfit Hefazat-e-Islami, are happy as the interim government is doing what they would have done to Hasina and her party. The former prime minister has already been sued on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity for the death of over 560 people, many of them children and students, during the anti-government rioting. Some former ministers have been arrested.

As Yunus's administration is still settling down, it is unclear how the change in government will impact Dhaka's close relations with New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the first foreign leader to welcome Yunus, saying India wants to continue working with Bangladesh on their shared vision. But when Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma met Foreign Affairs Advisor Touhid Hossain on Wednesday, he was told that Hasina making statements while in India was not "conducive to friendly relations or to fostering better bilateral relations". Hasina has reportedly stated that the US had a role in her ouster, an allegation denied by Washington.

Touhid said Dhaka also wants to end border killings by India, conclude the Teesta water sharing deal and ensure the supply of essential commodities. In another development, Farida Akhter, fisheries and livestock advisor, called for halting the export of hilsa fish, a delicacy among Bengalis, to India in order to keep the local prices down.

Yunus has packed his advisory council with five other members from non-government organisations, raising questions about its competence in running an administration that can sail through the turbulent waters. He waded into a controversy after the advisory council, in its first formal meeting, cancelled the public holiday on August 15 to mark the assassination of the nation's founding leader and Sheikh Hasina's father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in 1975. Freedom fighter Mahboob Zaman wrote, "In the new Bangladesh, there is every freedom but one to express mourning."

(Views are personal)

BETWEEN PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE OF RESERVATION

SANDEEP SHASTRI

Political scientist, National Coordinator of the Lokniti Network, and Director (academics) at the NITTE Education Trust

THE Lok Sabha elections drew a sharp debate on reservation policies in general and caste census in particular. After the results, the formation of a coalition government with at least one key player, JD(U), having been supportive of a caste census, and the Lok Sabha leader of opposition's unequivocal statement on such a census kept the spotlight on the issue. Further, the Supreme Court recently placed both caste census and reservation on the Centre-state scale.

One needs to add a caveat here. The demand for a caste census has distinctly different overtones as compared to the Supreme Court's stand on reservations, especially among the Scheduled Castes. This narrative focuses much more on the caste census and its linkages with the debate on Other Backward Classes' reservation.

To capture the public mood in the issue, we can draw on data from the Lokniti-CSDS pre-poll survey done during the run-up to the 2024 elections. When respondents were asked whether they thought the Congress and its allies were serious about a caste census or merely wished to use it as a political tool, around half the respondents felt there was a seriousness in the move. Close to a third (31 percent) felt it was being taken recourse to as a political tool. The rest were either unaware of the demand or did not take a stand on it.

Looked more closely, there was a clear lens of partisanship with which the issue was viewed. More than a third of those who supported the Congress and its allies felt the parties were serious about the census. Among those who said that they would vote the BJP, over four of every 10 felt it was a political tool employed to garner OBC votes. Among the OBCs themselves, more were likely to say it was being harnessed politically rather than representing genuine sincerity. This trend is also linked to the wider support base for the BJP in the 2024 elections among the OBCs as compared to the Congress.

Three other points merit attention, too. When it comes to reservation, one needs to make a categorical distinction between the philosophy of reservation and its practice. The visible social inequalities and the fight for social justice underscores the need for reservations. It is another matter that their practice has often left a lot to be desired.

This is especially true for OBC reservations. The Constitution permitted this reservation once the necessary steps were taken to identify who the OBCs were. The southern states took the initiative much earlier than the rest of the country. In many cases, this reservation preceded independence and the adoption of the Constitution. Providing OBC reservation at the national level took much longer and involved more than one backward class commission and intervention by the courts.

AFP

Crucial questions on reservation policies remain even decades after they were introduced. Does social justice lie in ensuring support to those who remain backward and have not benefited from reservation policies because of their sub-optimal implementation? Would a caste census help identify such groups?

Backward caste reservations were done on the basis of an extrapolation from the last caste census done close to a century ago in 1931. Further, the list of OBCs varies between the central government and states. Thus, a particular community may well be included in a state list and excluded in the national list. The argument for a caste census is made in the light of an absence of authentic numbers on the relative population of different OBC groups.

Second, the Supreme Court's 1992 judgement clearly underscored the need for excluding the creamy layer among the more socially, economically and educationally advanced OBCs. While the central and some state governments came out with criterions for defining the creamy layer, much of it has been whittled down over time or not been seriously adhered to. As a result, there are serious questions raised about the way in which reservation policies have been implemented.

Third, a logical extension of the creamy layer concept has been the expectation that the benefit of a particular level of OBC reservation should be prioritised for a first-generation beneficiary; a similar point was made by one judge in the recent Supreme Court ruling. The argument is that in the absence of such a limit, the same set of families could continue to enjoy the benefits of reservation generation after generation. It is also felt that an 'elite capture' of reservation benefits has adversely impacted the true realisation of the goals of social justice, deepening the long years of social inequality.

I return to the principal argument this analysis began with. Does the route to social justice lie in ensuring meaningful justice to those who remain backward and have not benefited from reservation because of the policies' implementation? Would a caste census help identify such groups? Would the elite within each caste group favour the spread of reservation benefits to those who have been denied till now? The issue raises a complex web of challenges with no quick-fix solution.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Loving neighbours

Ref: *The deafening silence of a noisy nation* (Aug 15). The author's observation regarding the indifference of states towards their neighbours is well made. Every state government and regional satrap needs to ponder over this. Regarding neighbouring countries, however, we cannot be noisy about the happenings there and get accused of interference.
R Kasthurirangan, Bengaluru

Hatred unacceptable

Why shouldn't we be concerned about the Hindus in Bangladesh or any of our neighbours if they are trouble? True, reservations for the kin of freedom fighters is unacceptable, but after the goal was achieved and former Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina resigned, some of the agitators turned to Hindu hatred. This is not acceptable.
Harsha Biliangady, email

Soothing advice

The author's views are soothing advice for youngsters. He taught us amazing qualities like tolerance and love. This is the era where we are covertly preaching regionalism, casteism, etc. The article reminded us of the forgotten values of our forefathers, like loving our neighbours, and iconically, "Every human is my kin and every town is my home."
Tejaswini Nayak, Koraput

Secular education

Ref: *Stop attempts to tear Kerala's secular fabric* (Aug 15). The editorial rightly invited the attention of the public to the dangers involved in the demand for a special room for prayer in a school or college for a particular religion. Every citizen has the right to follow the religion of their choice. This does not justify the demand for a special prayer room. An educational institution is not a place to pray.
J Jacob, email

Bengaluru infrastructure

Ref: *Bengaluru must be made more liveable with sustainable plans* (Aug 15). Indeed, cities like Bengaluru need liveable and sustainable infrastructure for the betterment of their citizens. To make cities liveable, there should be effective infrastructure planning thoroughly checked by development authorities.
Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi

Hasina remarks

Sheikh Hasina, while taking shelter in India after fleeing the political crisis in Bangladesh, should respect India's position and refrain from making political statements on the situation and calling its people to overthrow the interim government. Her actions will only end up embarrassing India as her current host.
S Kamat, Mysuru

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 60, No. 196 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

POSTS OF THE DAY

Hardeep Singh Puri @HardeepSPuri

Over the past decade, major reforms have reshaped our energy sector... Transforming lives by expanding Ujjwala connections, boosting refining capacities, and supporting green initiatives...

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi

As we celebrate Independence Day, let us reflect on the plight of Manipur, where true freedom remains elusive. I urge the Prime Minister once again to visit Manipur...

Ajit Pawar @AjitPawarSpeaks

During journeys, one must stop for a cup of tea. You get to meet common people, and they keep chatting.

I-DAY MESSAGE

■ Ready to give befitting reply to anyone who tries to harm India ■ Proud of brave soldiers who serve country selflessly

Forces marching towards self-reliance: Modi

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said India was a victim of terror attacks, but that time has gone with the armed forces giving a befitting reply to anyone who tries to harm the country. He highlighted the government initiatives towards self-reliance in defence.

Modi addressed the nation from the ramparts of the iconic Red Fort in Delhi on the 78th Independence Day.

Referring to the 2016 surgical and 2019 air strikes, Modi said, "There was a time when the country was a victim of terror attacks; but today it is bold and strong, with the armed forces giving a befitting reply to anyone who tries to harm the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country." The Prime Minister said the nation is proud of its brave soldiers who selflessly serve the motherland.

He said India is attaining 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence and is emerging as a global manufacturing hub due to the steps taken by the government in the last few years.

The Prime Minister pointed out that there was a time when the majority of the defence budget was used to procure weapons or equipment from abroad, but his government has focused on indigenous manufacturing.

He lauded the defence ministry and the armed forces for taking a series of decisions, including a notification on a number of positive indigenisation lists, wherein there are over 5,600 items that are being, or will be procured only from the Indian industry after designated timelines.

He expressed satisfaction that India, which was once completely dependent on the import of defence equipment, is today exporting to many countries.

The annual defence production, as per the MoD, touched a record high of ₹1.27 lakh crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24. "In the same fiscal year, defence exports touched a record high of ₹21,083 crore, an increase of 32.5% over FY 2022-23. In addition, there has been a massive jump in defence exports in the first quarter of FY 2024-25. Defence equipment worth ₹6,915 crore has been exported in the first quarter, an increase of 78% from the first quarter of FY 2023-24, when the figure was ₹3,885 crore," MoD said.

The PM emphasized the growing role of women in all sectors, saying women are not just participating in the progress of the nation, but are playing a leadership role.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets children during the 78th Independence Day celebrations at Red Fort in New Delhi on Thursday | SHEKHAR YADAV

Bhaker, Sarabjot cynosure of all eyes

Ceremonial welcome

Upon his arrival at Red Fort, the PM was received by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, his deputy in the ministry and Defence Secretary. Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan and the chiefs of the three Armed Forces also greeted the Prime Minister.

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID the patriotic fervour outside the Red Fort from where PM Modi spoke for 98 minutes, all eyes were on the ace shooter and double bronze medalist Manu Bhaker, fellow shooter and bronze medalist Sarabjot Singh, and PR Sreejesh, the hockey goalie who stood like a wall enabling India to bag the Olympic Bronze medal.

A large group of NCC boy and girl cadets (from the three wings of the armed forces) were seated on Gyanpath, opposite the Fort. They formed 'My Bharat' logo with customised Tricolour kits. As many as 500 National Service Scheme volunteers also took part. The PM later met the Indian contingent that took part in the Paris Olympics.

Cadet power

A large group of NCC boy and girl cadets (from the three wings of the armed forces) were seated on Gyanpath, opposite the Fort. They formed 'My Bharat' logo with customised Tricolour kits. As many as 500 National Service Scheme volunteers also took part.

The vision of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 was the running theme at the 78th Independence Day celebrations. Nearly all 6,000 dignitaries clapped and cheered when Modi said no power can stop India from becoming a powerful nation.

Upon his arrival at Red Fort, the PM was received by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, his deputy in the ministry Sanjay Seth and Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari also greeted the Prime Minister. General Officer Commanding, Delhi Area, and Lt Gen Bhavnish Kumar conducted the PM to the saluting base, where a combined inter-services and Delhi Police guard saluted him.

SHORT TAKES

Macron, Putin greet India on I-Day

Leaders from across the world, including French President Emmanuel Macron and Russian President Vladimir Putin, greeted India as it celebrated its 78th Independence Day on Thursday. Macron, in his message on X, said he remembers the warm welcome during his visit to India in January and that he is looking forward to "working with my friend @NarendraModi on achieving the ambitious goals we have set for our strategic partnership." Putin sent his greetings to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "We attach great importance to the relations of a particularly privileged strategic partnership with India," the Russian President said.

CJI points to value of freedom

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud on Thursday noted that the recent events in Bangladesh remind the value of freedom and liberty. Speaking after hoisting the national flag in the Supreme Court premises, the CJI said the day reminds people of the duties they have towards each other and the nation, in realising all the values of the Constitution. "It is very easy to take freedom and liberty for granted but it is important to understand the past stories to remind us how important these are," Chandrachud said.

All-women troops exchange sweets

An all-women unit of the Border Security Force (BSF) made a maiden gesture and handed over sweets and exchanged greetings with lady BGB personnel of Bangladesh at the front in West Bengal as part of Independence Day celebrations along the international border. The first-ever women border guards exchange took place near the Gede border post of the BSF even as a "high alert" continues all along this over 4,000 km front following the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government less than a week ago.

Rahul Gandhi with Olympics contingent on I-Day celebrations at Red Fort | PTI

Cong fumes as Rahul seated in 5th row

The Congress on Thursday said that making Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi "sit in the fifth row" at the Red Fort venue showed the Prime Minister's "pettiness" and lack of respect for democratic traditions. The Opposition party's attack came after sources involved in organising the event said all seating arrangements were done "as per the table of precedence". They said it was decided this year that "Paris Olympics medal winners" would be honoured as special guests at the Independence Day celebrations. According to protocol, the LoP of both Houses must be seated in the front row.

480 km stretch of Arunachal Pradesh & 243 km of Manipur is to be fenced | FILE PHOTO

Manipur, Arunachal told to work with Assam Rifles to fence Myanmar border

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

UNION Ministry of Home Affairs has written to the governments of Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh asking them to coordinate with Assam Rifles in preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for installing fences in the remaining stretches along the India-Myanmar border, officials said on Thursday.

A letter from MHA demanded speeding up the preparation of DPRs for the balance stretches of Arunachal Pradesh (480 km) and Manipur (243 km). Following this, the construction of the fences can be expedited, it said.

In the identical letters to the chief secretaries of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, the MHA asked them to hold discussions with Assam Rifles, Border Roads Organisation and other concerned departments to finalise locations and alignment of the fencing stretches.

In a post on micro-blogging site X, Member of Manipur Legislative Assembly Rajkumar Imo Singh said, "In a major decision taken by the Central government regarding the fencing of the Indo-Myanmar border, Union Home Ministry has asked to expedite the whole border fencing construction work by conducting survey and alignment of stretches along the Indo-Myanmar border, especially the Manipur stretch of 243 km."

He further said, "The Chief Minister shared this intimation letter on the floor of the House. One may not be satisfied with all the measures of the Central government to bring peace and normalcy in Manipur, but it has taken up important steps for the welfare of the indigenous people of the state by identifying illegal migrants in the state, removing FMR (free movement regime) to stop free movements of people into our country, construct the border fencing to ensure illegal migrants/refugees do not come into our country and transferring few units of paramilitary forces which were becoming a major hurdle towards bringing peace in the state."

Four northeastern states — Arunachal Pradesh (520 km), Manipur (398 km), Nagaland (215 km) and Mizoram (510 km) — share a 1,643 km unfenced border with Myanmar.

19 counter-terrorism units set up in militancy-hit districts of Jammu

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AFTER creating special force of 960 recruits from border villages to fight militancy and check infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir, police has formed 19 special counter-terrorism units in militancy-hit districts of Jammu, officials said.

The region has witnessed a surge in terror attacks on security forces since June. Army captain Deepak Singh and a militant were killed on Wednesday in an encounter in Assar forest area of Doda.

A police officer said 19 counter-terror units will be deployed in eight out of 10 districts of Jammu region to counter the rising militant threat.

"Four counter-terror units would be in action in Reas district at Pouni/Ransoo, Mahore/Chassana, Gulabgarh and Passana, and three units each in Ramban and Poonch districts. Two counter-terror units each will operate in Udhampur, Kathua, Doda and Kishtwar districts and one unit in Rajouri's Kalakote area," the officer said. Of the eight districts, where the units would be deployed, seven have witnessed militant attacks.

Terror-prone zones

Four counter-terror units would be in action in Reas district at Pouni/Ransoo, Mahore/Chassana, Gulabgarh and Passana, and three units each in Ramban and Poonch districts. Two counter-terror units each will operate in Udhampur, Kathua, Doda and Kishtwar districts and one unit in Rajouri's Kalakote area," the officer said. Of the eight districts, where the units would be deployed, seven have witnessed militant attacks.

"Each unit would be headed by a DySP rank officer. These units will conduct anti-militancy operations besides handling the route crime and law and order matters in the areas of their jurisdiction," the officer said, adding that the main task of these counter-terror units would be to combat terrorism in Pir Panjal and Chenab mountain ranges in Jammu region. "These units, which will be armed with the latest equipment and gadgets, will work closely with other security agencies to combat the militancy," the officer said.

The security forces are conducting searches to track down a group of militants hiding in the forest areas. Besides, security forces are also conducting searches in forest areas of Udhampur, Kathua, Kishtwar and Reasi districts.

Police in July created a new special force of 960 young recruits drawn from border villages and deployed on the border areas to fight militancy and check infiltration of militants in J&K. Of them, 560 have been deployed in border areas of Jammu region and the rest in the border areas in the Valley.

After a surge in terror strikes, the government has deployed 4000 additional security personnel, including 500 elite para commandos, in the forest areas of Jammu region.

Nalin Prabhat, ex-NSG chief, to take charge as J&K Police Special DG

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

HIGHLY decorated IPS officer and former National Security Guard (NSG) chief **Nalin Prabhat** was on Thursday appointed as Special Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police. He will take over as the force's chief after the retirement of RR Swain on September 30.

An order issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs — which came within hours of curtailment of his tenure as the NSG chief and subsequent allotment of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre — said that Prabhat, a 1992 IPS officer of Andhra Pradesh cadre, is sent to Jammu and Kashmir with "immediate effect".

The order further said that upon the retirement of Swain, "Prabhat is appointed as SDG, Jammu and Kashmir".

Prabhat, 55, is a three-time police gallantry medal winner and had also headed the specialised anti-Naxal police force 'Greyhounds' of Andhra Pradesh, his former cadre state. He has extensively served in the CRPF as he headed its Kashmir region deployment as the IG operations and ADG.

Meanwhile, the MHA on Thursday assigned the additional charge of NSG to CRPF Director General Anish Dayal Singh after Prabhat's appointment as J&K Police chief.

Compensate for pvt party land or will freeze freebies, Maha told

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has warned the Maharashtra government of suspending its freebie schemes unless it pays compensation to a private party whose land was "illegally" occupied by the state more than six decades ago.

A bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan noted on Wednesday that the land belonging to the applicant was illegally taken in possession by the state and later allotted to the Armament Research Development Establishment Institute.

The bench said the state has huge amount to "waste on freebies" but no money to compensate a private party, which lost land to it "illegally".

Observing that Maharashtra's conduct in the matter was not that of a "model state", the court warned that it may direct that all freebie schemes be suspended until the compensation was paid. While the state has offered to pay ₹37.42 crore as compensation, the applicant's counsel has contended that it comes to ₹317 crore, it noted.

Maharashtra's counsel Nishant R Katneshwarkar urged the bench to grant three weeks, saying the matter was being considered at the highest level. "We will grant you three weeks and pass an interim order that until we permit, no freebies schemes should be implemented in Maharashtra. We will stop Ladli Bahin, Ladka Bhau," the bench said.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

SC bins plea for protection to transpersons

A two-judge Supreme Court bench, in a recent order, refused to entertain a PIL filed by lawyer Reepak Kansal, seeking changes in the criminal law and equal protection to transgender people from sexual violence. The bench of Justices Hima Kohli and R Mahadevan, however, directed the petitioner to approach a high court. "Liberty is given to the petitioner to approach at least one state high court," the SC said. The petition sought directions to the Union of India to make appropriate modification of sections of the IPC dealing with sexual assaults against transpersons.

'Foreign court orders not binding on Indian courts'

Habeas Corpus

A Minnesota court had granted the custody of two minor girls to their father, while the girls lived with their mother. The father filed a habeas corpus for repatriation of his daughters.

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has held that a foreign court judgment that goes against Indian law is not binding on Indian courts.

The bench was hearing a challenge against an order of the Gujarat High Court, which dismissed the petitioner's habeas corpus writ seeking repatriation of his minor daughters on the basis of an order from a US court. The case involved a custody dispute. The top court dismissed the petition for temporary custody of two girls currently living with their mother in India.

"A foreign judgment violative of Indian law is not conclusive between the parties and thus, Indian courts are not bound to follow it," the bench said, clarifying that no attempts to affect the status of the minors or their mother shall be made by the Indian courts in compliance to a Minnesota court order.

EMERGENCY LANDING

A Varanasi-Mumbai flight of Akasa Air with 172 passengers on board on Thursday made an emergency landing at the Raja Bhoj Airport here after a passenger fell sick, an official said.

1 DEAD

6 HURT IN PILE-UP ON MUMBAI-AGRA HIGHWAY

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	33	26	Mumbai	32	27
Bhopal	28	24	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	30	24	Patna	30	27
Amritsar	33	27	Lucknow	34	28
Chennai	34	27	Port Blair	32	28
Kolkata	32	25	Imphal	29	22
Srinagar	30	20	Chandigarh	34	27

A HOPE IN THE TIME OF DESPAIR

Holding flaming torches and chanting 'Reclaim The Night', lakhs of people from all walks of life march on dark streets of West Bengal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kolkata

IT was a dark night, a few hours before Independence Day. The City of Joy appeared to struggle for 'its tryst with destiny' and 'redeeming a pledge.' In their thousands –young medicos, elderly men, women and teenagers – they gathered at 8B Bus Stand, near Jadavpur University, and called it 'Reclaim the Night.'

"Ai shamoy je dorshak, se dhorsak (one who is a mute spectator is also a rapist in these times," they chanted loudly as a narrow passage through which they passed heaved in spasmodic anger. The RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, where a young medico was raped and murdered a few days ago, stood grimly silhouetted against human shadows draped in sweat and rancourous rage out on the streets.

'Reclaim the Night' has been a powerful message soaked in tears, as well as in stinging questions – was it a single rapist-murderer or more than one, how do you find him/them? The Kolkata Police doesn't know yet – the reason for the sulfurous denunciation from all sides. It was well past midnight, the protestors weren't dispersing as the police stood guard. The crowd was getting restless, and a sense of desperation weighed heavy. Already, there has been violence in parts of West Bengal. Several police officers have been injured. The police, however, don't know who is behind mob violence.

The suddenness of events often benumbs senses, protestors weren't perhaps aware in Kolkata. Even as the agitation kept up its pace, a group of 40-50 youngsters entered RG Kar Medical College & Hospital. They quickly broke through the police barricade and rushed upstairs and looted furniture and destroyed large quantities medicines. They didn't spare the emergency ward. The "raiders" had kept their bike parked outside a tea stall.

The "raid" began around 12.45am and ended around 1.20am. The police later said they didn't know who the vandals were. And even before the protestors could react, the incident-within-the-incident flared up as a political joust. "They were outsiders," alleged BJP's Suvendu Adhikari.

Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal, who visited the premises at night, indicated that an investigation is underway and mentioned that a "malicious media campaign" might have exacerbated the situation.

The night was casting off its thin veil – It appeared to be the longest night. August 15 was about to hold the day. "We won't back down," said a youngster who refused to go away.

'74 hours work in a week'

Excessive duty hours pose risks to the physical and mental health of medics and compromise patient safety, an NMC taskforce said while recommending that resident doctors work no more than 74 hours a week

Ceasework against attacks

The Jadavpur University Teachers' Association has called for a day-long cease-work to protest the vandalism at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital and demanded a high-level impartial probe into attacks

The goons entered the campus and beat up agitating doctors. This was an attempt to break our morale so that we back out from the protest. But it strengthened our resolve to fight till the end

One of the protesting doctors

She was raped and killed in a brutal manner. Was there an attempt to hide the truth? The role of the police should be probed

Aparna Sen, actor and film maker

Till now 4-5 days have passed since the incident took place, but we are not happy with the police investigation

Mrs Barnali Saha, who came with her daughter to Jadavpur 8B More

People take part in a torch rally to protest against the sexual assault and murder of a postgraduate trainee doctor in Kolkata on Wednesday; Damaged medical equipment in the emergency room after unidentified miscreants vandalised a portion of the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital; CBI and other officials arrive at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital for investigation on Friday | PTI

OPDs & elective surgeries in all govt, pvt hosps to be shut on Aug 17, IMA joins stir

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

ALL OPDs and elective surgeries in government, private and even corporate hospitals across the country will not operate on August 17 following a call by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) on Thursday to protest the rape and murder of a PG student at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, which has sparked a nationwide spontaneous outpouring of outrage, leading to resident and junior doctors shunning work.

The IMA, which held an emergency meeting with its state branches earlier in the day following the midnight mob attack on the protesting doctors at RG Kar Medical College in Kolkata, said casualty and emergency services, however, will continue to function on August 17.

Dr RV Asokan, IMA national president, told this newspaper that the association has appealed to doctors in corporate hospitals to withdraw their services from OPD and elective surgeries for 24 hours—beginning 6am on Saturday to 6am on Sunday. "We want the government to declare hospitals as safe zones and bring the Central Protection Act for healthcare workers," he said.

People gather at Jadavpur to protest against the rape and killing of a trainee doctor at the RG Kar Medical College | PTI

The decision of the largest doctors' association in the country came as resident and junior doctors, interns and students further intensified their protest for the fourth consecutive day on Thursday after horrifying news and visuals of the midnight attack by goons on doctors at RG Kar surfaced. The IMA issued a statement condemning the vandalism, calling it "points to anarchy."

"Is this independence?" posted Dr Rakesh Bagdi Gurjar, senior resident at AIIMS, Delhi, in an apparent reference to India celebrating its 78th Independence Day on Thursday. "Heartbreaking: Mob attacked our peaceful protest and vandalised RG Kar Hospital. Police quietly watches. But we will not be intimidated," he said.

Videos of RG Kar hospital doctors, who were attacked and had to hide inside the hospital complex, pleading for their lives, surfaced on social media, united the doctors associations.

I-DAY MESSAGE

MODI: STATES MUST TAKE SWIFT ACTION

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

IN the wake of the nationwide protests over the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said he feels the outrage in society over atrocities against women.

As the Mamata Banerjee-led West Bengal government faces the ire of the agitating resident doctors, who have shut down work in various states, Modi said state governments need to take such atrocities seriously.

Addressing the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort on the 78th Independence Day, he highlighted his government's work on women-led development model and said the country is witnessing leadership by women in several fields, including Air Force, Army, Navy and the space sector.

He added, "There are some pressing concerns which bring me a lot of trauma. As a society, we should dwell upon the atrocities being meted out to our mothers, sisters and daughters. The outrage is visible in the nation and among the citizens," he said.

"The states, society and the nation must take serious cognisance of this malefaction. Crimes against women should be investigated without any delay. Those committing such demonic acts must be booked prima facie to reinstate the trust in the government, judiciary and civil society," Modi said in his 98-minute speech.

"I want to mention that the rape victims are highlighted all over the media and discussed in society. However, the rapist do not make to the news," the prime minister added.

He said that now the need of the hour is that there should be a comprehensive discussion about the criminals who get punished so that even those who commit such sins fear the consequences, including hanging to death. "I feel that it is essential to create this fear," Modi said.

He also highlighted how children are going abroad for medical education.

"Most of them come from middle-class families, and they spend a huge amount of money. Over the last ten years, we have increased the number of medical seats to nearly one lakh," he said.

He said approximately 25,000 young people go abroad each year for medical education. "Sometimes, I get surprised to hear about the countries they must visit to pursue medical education. Therefore, we have decided that 75,000 new seats will be created in the medical field in the next five years," Modi said.

JAIPUR DIARY

RAJESH ASNANI

Our correspondent in Jaipur

rajesh.asnani@newindianexpress.com

Rathore sparks row with showdown with cop

Rajasthan Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore recently stormed into a Jaipur police station to confront a police officer involved in beating an army commando. Rathore reprimanded the ACP and said, "Do you have any sense of public service, or is it just arrogance?" The incident went viral on social media, sparking widespread criticism. A caste angle is also suspected as Rathore is a Rajput while the police officer is from the Jat community. A Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting in the first Modi government, Rathore was demoted in the second term allegedly for his arrogance and high-handedness.

Political drama over Raj floods

Who knew flood management could be this dramatic? In Rajasthan, the political waters are rising just as fast as the floodwaters! More than half a dozen districts are drowning in floods, but for the ruling-BJP it seems Disaster Relief Minister Kirori Lal Meena is the real problem. Though he resigned two months ago, there's no clarity about the status of Kirori Lal as the BJP high command has kept him hanging by refusing to accept his resignation. Former CM Ashok Gehlot slammed the government, quipping that the Disaster Minister himself has gone missing amidst the floods.

Governor stirs power pot in Rajasthan

Since taking the oath, Rajasthan's new Governor Haribhau Bagde has been all over the place - seeking constant feedback on government schemes from officials and making his presence felt in the field. A former speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, Bagde is shaking things up. The state's Chief Secretary, Sudhansh Pant, has been hyper-active with whispers in power corridors that he's become a parallel power center. There's talk that Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, who got the top job despite being a debutant MLA, is feeling the heat. Could the Governor's dynamic approach be adding a bit of discomfort for the new CM?

Ajit Pawar says not keen on contesting Maha polls, may name son in Baramati fray

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

AFTER expressing his regrets over fielding his spouse against his sister Supriya Sule from the Baramati Lok Sabha elections, Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar said on Thursday that he was not much interested in contesting the Baramati seat in the assembly polls due this year.

In an interaction with the media in Pune, he said his son Jay Pawar was taking rounds of Baramati, stressing that in a democracy, each one has the right to contest elections. "I have contested the Baramati elections 7-8 times. So, I am not much interested this time. If there is a demand for Jay, then the party's parliamentary board can discuss and decide it," said Ajit. Ajit's spouse Sunetra lost the Lok sabha election by over 1.5 lakh votes in Baramati LS constituency. She also trailed by over 50,000 votes from the Baramati state assembly segment where Ajit Pawar has been MLA eight times.

During the campaign, Ajit had told people of Baramati that if they did not vote for his spouse despite so much of development work, then he would not contest the assembly polls.

The Sharad-Pawar led NCP plans to field Yugendra Pawar, the son of Sriniwas Pawar who is brother of Ajit Pawar. Yugendra has been travelling with Sharad Pawar and has expressed his desire to contest the assembly elections if the party allows him.

Ajit recently admitted his blunder by fielding his spouse against his sister Supriya Sule in the Lok Sabha elections in Baramati.

Upbeat Cong seeks larger share in UP pie, likely to contest 5 of 10 bypoll seats

Strategy

Initially, Congress was bargaining for one or two seats, but it raised the number as part of its organisational revival exercise. "Now we are demanding more seats as the party would plan reorganisation of the state unit depending upon the performance of its cadre in the bypolls," said the leader.

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

UPBEAT over Lok Sabha poll results in Uttar Pradesh, the Congress is planning to seek five of the 10 Assembly seats, where bypolls will be held, from its ally Samajwadi Party.

Congress sources said UPCC chief Ajay Rai, who met party president Mallikarjun Kharge recently, is targeting the five seats vacated by the NDA. "In case the SP wants to contest Meerapur seat which was held by RLD as the then SP ally in 2022, we are looking to contest at least four seats," a senior party leader said.

While SP has appointed its in-charges for six of the 10 seats, the Congress has named for all of them. However, the two INDIA bloc allies are yet to finalise seat sharing. Initially Congress was bargaining for one or two seats, but it raised the number as part of its organisational revival exercise. "Now we are demanding more seats as the party would plan reorganisation of the state unit depending upon the performance of its cadre in the bypolls," said the leader.

Based on the report of the exercise of cadre review, those showing results will be promoted, while non-performers will be replaced.

Bangla unrest hits mustard cake business in Gwalior-Chambal belt

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

BANGLADESH turmoil has hit the business of mustard cakes factories and thousands of workers in Gwalior-Chambal region of Madhya Pradesh.

Chandan Chaudhary left Bihar with his wife and children to work in one of the units in Morena district. However, with the unrest hitting business of mustard oil cake, he fears losing his job in future. "The work has slowed down and if the situation does not improve in Bangladesh soon, it would cast a shadow on our survival."

Another worker, Ram Tirath Singh at the solvent plant said, "We earlier used to earn around ₹700 daily, but the work has stopped for a month now. We don't know what the future holds for us."

A local truck driver Jabbar Singh, who has been engaged in transport of raw materials and finished products says, "My truck has been on a halt for more than two weeks. Don't know what to do now."

The Gwalior-Chambal region is the prime mustard cultivating base of the central Indian state. While the region is home to 50 mustard oil mills, it also houses around 150 units which produce "khali" (mustard cake/de-oiled cake). More than 50 of these units are operating in Morena district. The DOCs which are by-products of the mustard oil are largely exported to Bangladesh, where it is particularly used as poultry, fish and animal feed.

"Around 150 units are engaged in production of DOC/mustard cakes daily, producing over 3,500 tonnes in the region. Around 90% of the produce is exported to Bangladesh, but since July 20, the supply has been stopped. If the situation does not improve in Bangladesh, then not only will the mustard cake/DOC industry suffer, but newer international markets will have to be urgently searched to reduce this industry's dependence on Bangladesh," said Pravin Agrawal, the head of MP Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

According to sources, the losses may well be running into around ₹150 crore affecting the future of over 20,000 workers.

14 lakh
Afghan girls are deprived of schooling by Taliban, Unesco said

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	30	25	LR	Los Angeles	33	19	SNY
Colombo	30	27	LR	Melbourne	17	9	LR
Dhaka	34	27	LR	Moscow	24	13	SNY
Dubai	38	34	SNY	New York	31	22	SNY
Houston	36	27	SNY	Singapore	29	26	LR
Istanbul	31	24	SNY	Toronto	25	21	SNY
London	26	14	SNY	Washington	24	14	SNY

Google's Android app store set for major changes as monopoly penalty

SAN FRANCISCO

A federal judge has indicated he will order major changes in Google's Android app store to punish the company for engineering a system that a jury declared an illegal monopoly that has hurt millions of consumers and app developers.

Over the course of a three-hour hearing in San Francisco, US District Judge James Donato on Wednesday made it clear that the forthcoming shake-up he is contemplating will probably include a mandate requiring Google's Play Store for Android phones offer consumers a choice to download alternative app stores.

Donato has been weighing how to punish the Google since last December when a jury declared the Play Store a monopoly following a four-week trial. The verdict centred on Google's nearly exclusive control over distribution of apps designed for Android phones and the billing systems for the digital commerce occurring within them – a system that generates billions of dollars in annual revenue for the company.

In protesting the judge's potential requirements, Google has raised the specter of consumers' devices being infected

by malicious software downloaded from third-party app stores, triggering 'security chaos'. But Donato repeatedly hammered on the need for a major overhaul of the Play Store, even if it causes Google headaches and huge bills that the company has estimated could run as high as $600 million, depending on what the judge orders.

"We are going to tear the barriers down, that is going to happen," Donato told Google attorney Glenn Pomerantz. "When you have a mountain built out of bad conduct, you are going to have to move that mountain." Donato said he is hoping to issue an order outlining the framework for the changes to the Play Store within the next few weeks, possibly before the Labour Day weekend.

Google's tactics in the penalty phase of the Play Store case may foreshadow its strategy in a similar round of so-called 'remedy hearings' that will be held in an even bigger antitrust case that resulted in a judge branding the dominant search engine as an illegal monopoly, too. Those hearings focused on the crown jewel of Google's empire are scheduled to start Sept 6 in Washington.

AP

On anniv day, mob foils bid to honour Bangabandhu

UN experts to visit Bangladesh next week to investigate killings

DHAKA

A large group of stick-wielding people positioned themselves in front of the Bangabandhu's residence-turned-museum here on Thursday and foiled attempts by deposed premier Sheikh Hasina's supporters to commemorate the anniversary of the assassination of her father and Bangladesh's founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The development comes days after the interim government scrapped the National Mourning Day holiday, marking the August 15, 1975, assassination of the Bangabandhu.

Unlike the previous years, no sombre wreath offering ceremony was held at Bangabandhu's 32 Dhanmandi private residence, which was turned into a memorial museum after his assassination. The museum was burnt into ashes by an angry mob after Hasina resigned and fled to India on August 5.

"There were no processions, no demonstration but people wanted to pay tribute to the Father of The Nation, Bangabandhu. In the guise of students, the radical group Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh Islami Chhatrashibir and Bangladesh Nationalist Party people are beating people,' Hasina's Awami League party said on Thursday in a post on *X*.

Hasina's party said on Thursday that unarmed cultural activists were assaulted for defying a mob as they converged to pay tribute to the memory of the founding father at his residence. It said that supporters of the same mob occupied the road surrounding the residence

Protesters surround a suspected sympathiser of ousted ex-premier Sheikh Hasina, near the house of her late father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Dhaka on Thursday | AFP

on Thursday. "In some places, midnight rallies brought under the banner of anti-discrimination protesters with chants of mob violence against anyone who dare to defy and offer towards Dhanmondi 32 many more," it added.

"Such repression is nothing new against Awami League. Following the brutal assassination in 1975, the killers employed similar repressive measures. But the ideals of Mujib overpowered all the hurdles time and again," the party said in a post on *X*.

On Thursday, a large group of stick-wielding people positioned themselves in front of the museum to bar anyone from paying tributes in front of his bust at Bangabandhu Bhaban.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal has started an investigation against former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and nine others on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity that took place from July 15 to August 5 during students' mass movement against her government.

A team of UN experts will visit Bangladesh next week to investigate the killings of the protesters ahead of and in the aftermath of Sheikh Hasina's resignation as the prime minister last week, it was announced on Thursday.

This will be the first time the UN is sending a fact-finding mission to Bangladesh since its independence in 1971 to investigate widespread human rights abuses in the country, according to a UN official, said a post on *X* by the Chief Adviser of the Government of Bangladesh. *PTI*

Thaksin's daughter is Thailand party's PM pick

BANGKOK

THAILAND's Pheu Thai party has chosen Paetongtarn Shinawatra, the 37-year-old daughter of billionaire ex-PM Thaksin Shinawatra, as its candidate for prime minister, it announced on Thursday, a day after a court dismissed the incumbent premier in an ethics case.

Lawmakers will vote on Friday in parliament, where Pheu Thai heads a governing coalition, on whether to approve Paetongtarn as prime minister.

"We are confident that the party and coalition parties will lead our country in helping with Thailand's economic crisis," Paetongtarn said after her selection was announced. Thailand's Constitutional Court sacked premier Srettha Thavisin on Wednesday after ruling he had breached regulations by appointing a cabinet minister with a criminal conviction, plunging the kingdom into fresh political uncertainty.

Pheu Thai – the electoral vehicle of one-time Manchester City owner Thaksin – is the largest member of a governing coalition of 11 parties that includes royalist and pro-military outfits who were once its bitter rivals. Srettha is the party's third prime minister to be kicked out by the Constitutional Court and is leaving office after less than a year.

Paetongtarn Shinawatra

Thai politics has endured two decades of chronic instability marked by coups, street protests and court orders, much of it fuelled by the long-running battle by the military and pro-royalist establishment against parties linked to their bete noire Thaksin.

Paetongtarn was chosen ahead of Pheu Thai stalwart Chaikasem Nitisiri, 75.

She must secure 247 votes from the 493 members currently sitting in parliament to be elected prime minister.

Her selection showed "Pheu Thai's strategy to stand by the youth movement", analyst Yuttaporn Issarachai said.

But he said it would be difficult to "move on from the conservative and military influence" that has dominated Thai politics for decades.

AFP

ASIA MATTERS

SINGAPORE

TWO CHINESE BANKERS IN TROUBLE

Two former bankers, both Chinese nationals, were charged in on Thursday in connection with the city-state's biggest money laundering case, police said. Assets worth more than $2.3 billion were seized in massive police operations that began in August last year. Ten foreigners were arrested, convicted and deported after jail terms. They all hail from China, but most held passports from Cambodia, Turkey, Cyprus and Vanuatu. The two former bankers suspected of helping those convicted were charged at a district court. Liu Kai, 35, was with Julius Baer, and Wang Qiming, 26, was with Citi.

MALAYSIA

PEOPLE SELL GOLD FOR QUICK PROFITS

With the price of gold slipping recently as the ringgit strengthens, there is a surge in interest at the retail level with people selling their gold jewellery to seize profit, *The Star* reported. Jewellery shop owner Riyaz Mohd Shaul Hameed, 41, said the price of gold increased from about RM300 per gramme early this year up to RM380 at the end of July.

INDONESIA

GOVT MULLS SHUTTING COAL POWER PLANT

The government is studying the possible early retirement of the Suralaya coal-fired power plant in Banten to reduce air pollution in Jakarta, *JP* reported. The regions surrounding the capital are the industrial heartland, and Java is home to roughly 30% of coal-fired power plants nationwide, including some large power stations that only commenced operations last year, such as the Batang power plant. The operating period of several coal-fired power plants on the island has also been extended beyond their initial plans, including the Suralaya plant in Cilegon.

3 more former army officers in Pak taken into custody

ISLAMABAD

THREE former Pakistan Army officers have been arrested by the military for their alleged connection with the court martial proceedings against former spymaster Lt Gen (retd.) Faiz Hameed, the army said on Thursday. Hameed, who served as director general of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) from 2019 to 2021, was arrested following action in the complaint of a private property developer over alleged misuse of official authority.

According to a fresh statement by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) - the media wing of the army, three retired army officers were under military custody for 'actions prejudicial to military discipline'.

"Further investigations of certain retired officers and their accomplices for fomenting instability at the behest of and in collusion with vested political interests are continuing," it added. The identity of the three officials was not released by the military.

The military had reportedly set up an inquiry committee in April to investigate allegations of misuse of authority against Hameed after the Supreme Court asked the defence ministry to probe the allegation by the owner of Top City Housing Society. The property developer, Kanwar Moeez Khan, had alleged that his house was raided by officials in November 2023 who took away precious items including gold.

The unprecedented arrest of the top-ranking officer, who led the premier intelligence agency, broke the myth in the country that such powerful officers were beyond the reach of law.

Lt Gen (retd.) Hameed was considered extremely powerful when he headed the spy agency from 2019 to 2021.

PTI

Sat images show air bases in Russia attacked

KYIV

A Ukrainian drone attack on Russian air bases damaged at least two hangars and other areas, satellite images showed. Images taken on Wednesday by Planet Labs PBC showed that two hangars at Borisoglebsk Air Base had been struck, with a field of debris seen around both. It was not immediately clear what purpose the hangars served.

There also appeared to be damage potentially done to two fighter aircraft at the base.

Separately, at Savasleika Air Base, one burn mark could be seen on the apron in images, though there was no apparent damage visible to the fighter jets and other aircraft there.

Kursk acting Governor Alexei Smirnov on Thursday ordered the evacuation of the Glushkovo region, about 45 kms northwest of Sudzha, where heavy battles are taking place, as Ukraine's daring incursion into the bordering Kursk region entered its second week.

The evacuation order suggests Ukrainian forces are gradually advancing toward the area.

Russia also declared a federal-level state of emergency in the Belgorod region. A regional-level state of emergency had been declared a day earlier in Belgorod, and the change in status suggests officials believe the situation is worsening and hampering the region's ability to deliver aid.

Residents who suffer severe health damage will be eligible to receive payments of up to $6,600. Those who experience a loss of property are eligible for up to $1,700, Russia's Emergencies Ministry said.

Russian bloggers have claimed that reserves arriving in the region have stemmed Kyiv's advances.

Richard Verma given rebuilding Ukraine role

Indian-American Richard Verma, the former US Ambassador to India, has been entrusted with an additional task of helping in rebuilding the war-ravaged Ukraine. US Secretary of State Tony Blinken has named him as the US Special Representative for Ukraine's Economic Recovery, in addition to his position.

Ukraine seizes 82 settlements in Russia

Ukrainian troops have taken control of dozens of villages and 82 settlements over a thousand sq kms of territory in Russia's Kursk region, Ukraine's top military chief said on Thursday. "In total, since the start of operations in the Kursk region, our troops have advanced 35 kms deep," said Ukraine's top military commander Oleksandr Syrsky.

Gaza truce talks off to a promising start, WH says

WASHINGTON

THE White House said on Thursday that Gaza ceasefire talks in Qatar involving top US officials had a "promising start" but that it did not expect to close a deal immediately.

The White House confirmed that talks had started in Doha involving CIA Director William Burns and said negotiations would run through Friday.

"Today is a promising start," National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters. "There remains a lot of work to do. Given the complexity of the agreement, we do not anticipate coming out of these talks today with a deal," he said.

But he added: "Remaining obstacles can be overcome, and we must bring this process to a close.

"We need to see the hostages released, relief for Palestinian civilians in Gaza, security for Israel and lower tensions in the region, and we need to see those things as soon as possible."

President Joe Biden on May 31 put forward a ceasefire plan and last week joined the leaders of Qatar and Egypt in urging Hamas-Israel talks starting Thursday. Hamas had initially made counterproposals but now says it wants the full implementation of Biden's plan, which includes an initial six-week ceasefire and the release of hostages.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose far-right coalition partners oppose a deal, has reportedly put forward new demands that include Israeli control of the Gaza-Egypt border.

The White House would not discuss the issues under debate in Doha but insisted that they concerned implementation.

"We're at a point now where the framework is generally accepted, and where the gaps are in the execution of the deal," Kirby said.

Casting a cloud over the diplomacy have been tensions between Israel and Iran following the assassination in Tehran of Hamas's political leader Ismail Haniyeh, who was involved in ceasefire talks.

Iran has vowed to retaliate against Israel, prompting the US to send more forces. *AFP*

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 314

TOLL SO FAR
41,549

More Hezbollah fighters killed now

Ten months of cross-border violence between Hezbollah and Israeli forces has killed senior commanders and several hundred fighters from the Iran-backed group, causing destruction and displacing tens of thousands on both sides. Hezbollah has seen more fighters killed since October than when it last went to war with Israel in 2006.

Journos sore as Meta kills CrowdTangle

SAN FRANCISCO

META Platforms has shut down CrowdTangle, a tool widely used by researchers, watchdog organisations and journalists to monitor social media posts, notably to track how misinformation spreads on the company's platforms.

Wednesday's shutdown, which Meta announced earlier this year, has been protested by researchers and nonprofits. In May, dozens of groups, including the Center for Democracy and Technology, the Digital Forensic Research Lab at the Atlantic Council, Human Rights Watch and NYU's Center for Social Media & Politics, sent a letter to the company asking that it keep the tool running through at least January so it would be available through the U.S. presidential elections.

"This decision jeopardizes essential pre- and post-election oversight mechanisms and undermines Meta's transparency efforts during this critical period, and at a time when social trust and digital democracy are alarmingly fragile," the letter said. CrowdTangle, "has been an essential tool in helping researchers parse through the vast amount of information on the platform and identify harmful content and threats," it added.

In March, the nonprofit Mozilla Foundation sent Meta a similar letter asking it to keep the tool, which was available for free, functioning until January.

Meta Wednesday that CrowdTangle doesn't provide a complete picture of what is happening on its platforms. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Record number of candidates for SL polls

Colombo: A total of 39 candidates, including three minority Tamils and two Buddhist monks, are in the fray for next month's presidential election in Sri Lanka, the election commission announced here on Thursday. However, there was not a single woman candidate for the September 21 election. In the last presidential election in 2019, there were 35 candidates while there were only six candidates in the first-ever presidential election held in October 1982. On the last day to file papers, nominations were accepted from 9 am to 11 am

Biden hosts social media influencers

Washington: Social media influencers got the royal treatment at the White House as President Joe Biden gave a nod to their ability to hold sway with millions of loyal followers. The White House on Wednesday played host to a group of more than 100 influencers, also known as content creators, across a range of media platforms from chefs and makeup artists to fitness gurus and medical students to talk about issues including mental health, pay equity and AI

4.23% fall in India's gold imports to $12.64 billion during April-July 2024-25 due to global economic uncertainties, according to government data.

Banks forced to raise rates as deposits dry up

Cost of funds on average rising by as much as 25-30 basis points this fiscal, which may top 5.25% system wide

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

AMID slow growth in deposits and rising credit demand, banks are staring at lower margins/profits as they chase depositors offering them higher prices for their money. As a result, analysts see the cost of funds on average rising by as much as 25-30 bps this fiscal, which may top 5.25% system wide.

While credit growth has been averaging 15-16%, deposits accretion has been averaging at 11-12% this fiscal. In FY24, credit grew 19.3% but deposit inched up only 14.7%, forcing banks to offer higher prices for term deposits.

And typically, banks earn more when interest expense (which is what they pay for their funds) is lower. In a normal scenario banks price deposits/liabilities lower than their assets/loans to protect their margins/spreads. But since lending rates are already high, banks are forced to increase deposit rates even as they hold the lending rates.

According to rating agency Crisil, banks profitability is set to moderate due to higher cost of deposits as they continue to re-price already elevated deposit rates.

Deposit costs are expected to increase 25-30 bps this fiscal after having risen 140 bps since the start of the rate tightening cycle in May 2022. As a result, net interest margin is likely to compress 10-20 bps this fiscal to 3-3.1%.

For instance since the beginning of this fiscal, leading banks have increased their deposit rates twice — in June and early July. Before that they had another round of deposit repricing in December 2023.

State-run banks are taking a lead in raising special short-term fixed deposit schemes. The new offers vary from 7.05-7.3% for 360 to 666 days money. While BoB is offering 7.25% for rates for 399 days and 7.15% for 333 days, SBI is giving 7.25% for 444 days and 7.1% for 400 days. This had the cost of deposits for SBI rising to 5% in the June quarter from 4.55% a year ago and 4.81% in Q4FY24, pulling down its yield on advances to 8.83% in June 2024 from 8.91% in March 2024. Similarly, the second largest lender HDFC Bank saw its cost of funds rising to 4.9% from 4.6% and the yield on yield on assets inching down to 8.4% from 8.7%.

On the other hand, the second largest private sector lender ICICI Bank's cost of funds shot up to 4.84% this quarter from 4.31% and that of Axis Bank this increased from 5.17% to 5.44%.

On the other hand, state-run banks led by SBI have hiked loan prices, too, this month to protect their margins. On Wednesday, SBI increased its lending rate by 10 bps across tenors, effective August 15 for loans priced on the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR). The new rate varies from 8.20% for overnight rate money to 9.10% for three years loans. Earlier this month BoB, Canara Bank, and Uco Bank also hiked their MCLR-based loans by 5 bps for six-month and one-year tenures.

- Crisil Rating warns banks of bottomline hit as cost of funds seen rising by **25-30** bps this fiscal
- State-run banks SBI, BoB leading in attracting deposits offering **7.10** to **7.30%** on short-term FDs
- Punjab National Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Punjab & Sindh Bank, Union Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India and Indian Bank have also increased FD rates between **7.05** to **7.25%**

VYING FOR DEPOSITS

- SBI's cost of funds rose to **5%** YoY in June quarter from **4.55%** same quarter a year ago and from **4.81%** in Q4FY24
- HDFC BANK' COST OF FUNDS RISES FROM **4.6%** TO **4.9%** IN JUNE QUARTER
- ICICI Bank's cost of funds shot up to **4.84%** this quarter from **4.31%**
- Axis Bank's cost of funds increases from **5.17%** to **5.44%**

India set to become chip manufacturing hub: PM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said many global companies are interested in investing in India and urged state governments to compete to attract these investments. Modi, speaking from the ramparts of the Red Fort, also highlighted that the country is poised to become a global leader in semiconductor production and will work to reduce its dependency on imports.

"Many of the world's leading companies want to invest in Bharat... These are global investors who want to come to Bharat and invest here. This is a huge golden opportunity. I urge state governments to establish clear policies to attract investors... This competition will bring investment to their states, providing local youth with opportunities and creating jobs," said the Prime Minister.

Regarding the semiconductor industry, Modi emphasised the need to advance from research to manufacturing.

"Future of the world is connected with semiconductors, modern technology and AI... India has been into research and now we should move towards manufacturing as well. We have the capability and prowess to provide end to end solutions to the world in this sector," said Modi.

In February 2024, the government approved the establishment of three semiconductor plants—two in Gujarat and one in Assam — with a total investment of approximately ₹1.26 lakh crore. Modi, delivering his longest speech (98 minute) — surpassing his previous record of 96 minutes set in 2016— highlighted India's progress in telecommunications.

Ola launches Roadster electric bike series at starting price of ₹75,000

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

OLA Electric on Thursday entered electric motorcycle segment with the launch of Roadster, Roadster X and Roadster Pro. It announced the integration of its cells in its own vehicles starting from the first quarter of the financial year 2026.

Roaster X, Roadster, and Roadster Pro are launched at a starting price of ₹74,999, ₹1,04,999, and ₹1,99,999, respectively. Booking of Roadster variants starts on August 15, 2024.

Bhavish Aggarwal, founder and CMD, said, "Today, 2/3rd of India's 2W market consists of motorcycles, and with Ola's entry into this segment, EV penetration is poised to accelerate in Indian 2W segment. We have been successful in accelerating EV adoption in scooter segment, and with futuristic portfolio of products, we are focused on supercharging EV penetration via our motorcycles. Coupled with integration of cells in vehicles starting early next year, we will chart a new course for mass EV adoption across India."

Roadster X is fastest e-bike in the segment, available in 2.5 kWh, 3.5 kWh, and 4.5 kWh batteries. Ola claims Roadster X can clock 0-40 kmph in 2.8 seconds (for 4.5 kWh variant), has a maximum speed of 124 kmph and offers 200 km range.

Roadster promises to be the fastest motorcycle in commuter segment powered by 13 KW motor. Available in 3.5 kWh, 4.5 kWh, and 6 kWh batteries, it cruises from 0-40 kmph in 2 seconds (6 kWh). It has a top speed of 126 kmph and offers range of 248 kms. Riders can switch between four riding modes - Hyper, Sports, Normal, and Eco.

Roadster Pro has 52 kW peak power output and 105 Nm torque, 16 kWh variant accelerates from 0-40 kmph in 1.2 sec, 0-60 kmph in 1.9 seconds and clocks a top speed of 194 kmph.

Bookings for all variants will start from August 15, 2024

LAUNCH PAD

MODEL	BATTERY	PRICE	DELIVERY
Roadster X	2.5 kWh	₹74,999	Q4FY25
	3.5 kWh	₹84,999	Q4FY25
	4.5 kWh	₹99,999	Q4FY25
Roadster	3.5 kWh	₹1,04,999	Q4FY25
	4.5 kWh	₹1,19,999	Q4FY25
	6 kWh	₹1,39,999	Q4FY25
Roadster Pro	8 kWh	₹1,99,999	Q4FY26
	16 kWh	₹2,49,999	Q4FY26

If product is good, will sell: Mahindra

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

ANAND Mahindra, chairman of Mahindra Group, said if a company's product is terrific, they are bound to succeed. Pointing out that the group's two-wheeler division faced several impediments such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which slowed things down in the past, Mahindra, at launch event of BSA Gold Star 650, said he is confident that their effort to share a part of history along with a great product is sure to take off.

"Even if I had steroidal growth (in two-wheeler biz), I would still not be happy. We faced several impediments like Covid-19, which slowed things down in past few years. The kind of machines created by our team in R&D centres of India and the UK is unparallel," said Mahindra as his subsidiary company - Classic Legends - which has revived the iconic Jawa and Yezdi motorcycle brands, on Thursday, launched another iconic motorcycle brand- the BSA - in India.

He added, "What we always believe is if your product is terrific, you will succeed. This is what I believe here to happen as well...Jawa, Yezdi and BSA are cult-like brands and there is a big community for them. We have to give a kickstart."

Classic Legends on Thursday launched BSA Gold Star 650 at a starting price of ₹3 lakh. Gold Star 650, competes with Royal Enfield's 650 twin range, boasts a 652cc liquid-cooled single-cylinder engine delivering a torque of 55 Nm and 45 bhp.

M&M launched Thar Roxx at ₹12.99 lakh

NEW DELHI: Mahindra & Mahindra on Thursday launched 5-door version of Thar ROXX at a starting price of ₹12.99 lakh. Bookings will open from October 3, 2024, and test drive from Sept 14, 2024. Veejay Nakra, President – automotive division, M&M, said, "With Thar ROXX, we're not just elevating SUV experience—we're setting sight on making Thar No. 1 SUV (>12.5 lakh segment) by volume within next 3 to 5 years." *ENS*

The Birmingham Small Arms Company (BSA) was once the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer. Classic Legends acquired BSA brand in 2016 and last year announced plans to spend ₹1,000 crore over three years towards product development, distribution and marketing.

BSA Gold Star 650 first made a comeback in the UK in 2021 and was then launched in other parts of Europe, Turkey, New Zealand, and the Philippines. BSA is ready to enter the US, Australia, and Japan soon after. Anupam Thareja, co-founder of Classic Legends said the market size of the 650 cc segment is 15,000-20,000 per annum and is growing very fast. He expects that with this new launch, this segment will double or triple in size in the next few years.

Classic Legends, currently, can produce half a million two-wheelers from its Madhya Pradesh plant. This year, it will be rolling out 100,000 units across the three brands. The company is setting up a production facility in the UK.

FUEL

Penalty if CIL fails to supply coal to consumer

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

IN a first such instance, state-owned Coal India Limited (CIL) will be liable to pay a penalty if it fails to supply coal to consumers through e-auction. Until now, only buyers faced penalties for not lifting the full quantity bid for.

The move aims to increase CIL's supply and maintain its market relevance. Currently, CIL is the sole supplier of coal via e-auction and the provision of penalty would now be part of the e-auction contracts of Coal India going ahead.

"The move is to make the contract equitable and fair. Earlier, there was no penalty on CIL, if CIL failed to supply coal to the consumer. It used to forfeit the security deposit of consumers, if the consumer failed to lift successful bid quantity of e-auction," said a senior official of the coal ministry.

These measures aim to boost CIL's supply and maintain market relevance amid rising competition from commercial mining and private players. Phasing out of coal from certain sectors is driving CIL to prioritise supply. Reports suggest demand for CIL's coal could drop by up to 58% in next two years. To counter this, CIL has relaxed restrictions on supply to thermal power plants and independent power plants (IPPs). These entities can receive coal beyond their annual contracted quantity (ACQ). Earlier capped at 120% of ACQ, there is no upper limit now. CIL said these measures are part of India's broader plan to reduce coal imports and become self-sufficient in coal production.

DPIIT relooks at FDI from China: Govt sources

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

THE Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is considering revisiting the restrictions placed on foreign direct investment (FDI) from China as part of a broader evaluation of the country's foreign investment policies, as per the government sources.

Consultations with stakeholders are underway, and a decision has not yet been reached, sources said. "DPIIT is looking into what should be the revised FDI policy, and it is working in that direction. They are doing stakeholder consultations," a top official said.

The Economic Survey for 2023-24, released in July, emphasised the potential benefits of increasing FDI from China to enhance India's exports. It argued that utilising FDI as part of 'China-Plus One' strategy' is more beneficial than solely relying on trade. This is relevant as China is India's largest import partner, and the trade deficit with it has been on the rise. The survey highlighted the experiences of countries like Vietnam, Mexico, Taiwan, and South Korea, which have benefitted from increased Chinese FDI as the US shifted its trade focus away from China.

As per another official, the government is aiming to cut dependence on China via Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which encourages domestic production. As production capacities are developed under this scheme, reliance on Chinese imports will fall, he said. It's important to acknowledge India has strong domestic consumption, which will play a role in this strategy, he added.

As per the latest figures from the commerce department, exports to China during April-July 2024 fell 4.54% to $4.8 billion, while imports from China rose by 9.66% to $35.85 billion.

Meanwhile, on trade deficit with China, Sunil Barthwal, Commece Secretary, during press conference said "no country has been able to decouple from China, including the US and EU? The point is that in trade, you are dependent upon all countries who are in the value chain."

'Chinese import will fall once mfg capacities built'

According to an official, the government is aiming to reduce dependence on China via Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which encourages domestic production. As production capacities are developed under this scheme, reliance on Chinese imports will fall, he said. It's important to acknowledge India has strong domestic consumption, which will play a role in this strategy, he added

Sebi faces difficulties to recover ₹76,293 cr dues

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE Securities and Exchange Board (Sebi) said it is facing difficulties in recovering dues of ₹76,293 crore as of March 2024, which is more than 4% from the previous year. This is a major improvement over FY23, when pending dues were ₹1.02 lakh crore.

As per the market regulator's annual report for FY24, of the 3,871 recovery notices issued by it in various cases, as much as 807 are certified as difficult to recover. Of these, as much as 78% are due to cases pending before court-appointed panels.

The number of pending appeals in the Securities Appellate Tribunal has risen from 749 to 849 in FY24, says the report, pegging the amount to be recovered standing at ₹76,293 crore. However, the report does not mention the amount it has recovered in the past fiscal year. Even though the number of pending cases rose , the number of new appeals filed has fallen.

In FY23, Sebi's recovery fell to ₹6,031 crore while it had pending demands of ₹1.02 lakh crore, as per FY23 report. In FY22, it had recovered from erring market participants as much as ₹15,756 crore.

Business & Beyond

ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel receives coveted Odisha CSR Excellence Award by ASSOCHAM

Bhubaneswar:ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India), a joint venture between ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel, two of the world's leading steelmakers,has been conferred with the prestigious ASSOCHAM Odisha CSR & Sustainability Excellence Awards 2024 in the category of Community Impact (Cross-Sector Collaboration) for its exemplary work making significant positive impacts on local communities through its CSR initiatives.AM/NS India won this prestigious award for its innovative and high impact projects for community development, infrastructure enhancement, and support for local economies across its operational areas in Odisha. Shri Sampad Chandra Swain, Hon'ble Minister of State (Ind. Charge), Industries, Skill Development and Technical Education, Govt. of Odishapresented the award to Shri T S Shanbhogue, Head – Greenfield Project, EC & FC,

Walkathon organized by Punjab & Sind Bank, Noida Zone under Deposit Mobilization Drive

Today, Sh Mahesh Sabharwal , Zonal Manager , Punjab and Sind Bank , Noida Zone , organized a walkathon in Atta , Sector-18 under the Deposit Mobilization Drive.

Around fifty staff members of the Bank and Zonal Office, under the leadership of worthy Chairman of the Bank, Dr Charan Singh did a 3 km long walkathon and visited all the small & big shopkeepers, malls, traders etc and make them aware about all the schemes of the Bank like PSB FREEDOM , PSB DHAN KUBER , PSB GAURAV BACHAT, PSB Shubharambh , PSB Udaan , PSB Udhyam Current Account, attractive rates of all Loan Products. Today's walkathon was successful due to positive response received by of all the customers towards the Bank.

JSP's Kasia and Tensa Mines Secure Prestigious Mines Safety Awards 2024

New Delhi/Bhubaneswar: Jindal Steel and Power (JSP) has been honored with the Mines Safety Awards 2024 by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) at the All-India Mines Safety Awards for its exceptional commitment to safety at its mining sites in Odisha. The Kasia Iron Ore Mines received the second prize in the large open cast metal mines category, while the Tensa Iron Ore Mines secured the second prize in the medium open cast metal mines category. Notably, JSP was the sole recipient of these accolades in the Joda and Koira Sectors. Member of Parliament and JSP's Chairman Shri Naveen Jindal expressed his pride, stating, "For JSP, safety comes first. Receiving the Mines Safety Award 2024 is a tremendous honor.

Election of AIBOC Executives

Bhubaneswar: A meeting of the Executive Committee of State All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC) was held at local State Bank of India headquarters and elected its state President, secretary and other members for next three years. Comrade Bailochan Sahu of PNB has been elected as the state President of AIBOC and greeted in various places. PNB Officers Association said this is a great achievement for AIPNBOA. Similarly, State Bank of India's Amitav Das elected as state secretary. Bank of India's Kamaljit Mohapatra, Canara Bank's P K Mohanty, Union Bank's Gauri S Choudhury, Indian Bank's Sambit Patnaik, IOB's Sanchit Patnaik, UCO Bank's Sukant Chhattoi, Federal Bank's Soumendra Dalai, Odisha Gramya Bank's Biraja Kar and other members of the Executive Committee were present on the occasion.

BCCI rejects offer to host Women's T20 WC

BCCI has refused to host the upcoming Women's T20 World Cup in October after security challenges in Bangladesh following anti-government protests. ICC is looking at the possible alternative hosts for the tournament slated to be held from October 3-20. "Our priority is the safety and well-being of all participants," an ICC had said in a statement.

PAST AND PRESENT

Athlete (Event)	Paris performance	Personal Best
Jyothi Yarraji (100mH)	13.16 seconds and 13.17 seconds	12.78
Women's 4/4 relay	3:32.51	3:26.89
Men's 4/4 relay	3:00.58	2:59.05
Sarvesh Kushare (HJ)	2.15m	2.27m
Kishore Jena (JT)	80.73m	87.54m
Annu Rani (JT)	55.81m	63.82m
Praveen Chitravel (TJ)	16.25m	17.37m
Tajinderpal S Toor (SP)	18.05m	21.77m
Kiran Pahal (400m)	52.51 and 52.59	50.92
Paramjeet Bisht (20km race walk)	1:23.46	1:20.08

QUALIFIED FOR FINAL

Avinash Sable

Neeraj Chopra

SEASON'S BEST

Chopra

Parul Chaudhary

Men's 4/4

0 Personal Bests

Indian athletics not on the track

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

AS Neeraj Chopra's javelin soared through the Parisian night sky in the final, it wasn't hard to wonder why that performance was a one-off in athletics. That Chopra has come to symbolise excellence isn't a surprise; he has shown time and again that the only way for him is up. However, at the Games, from an Indian athletics point of view, the only thing that had an upward trajectory was Chopra's javelin.

The disappointment didn't come from the absence of other medals. It came because of a string of less than ideal displays right across the board. In events like athletics where a lot of Indians aren't necessarily contenders at the global level, you look for other things like season bests, personal bests, national records, advancing to the semifinal... small increments to show they are on the right path.

It didn't transpire that way. Take for instance both of Jyothi Yarraji's runs in Paris. Over the last year, she has become a consistent sub 13 seconds operator. In this time, she has also won Asian honours apart from lowering the national record. On that purple Mondo track though, the 24-year-old clocked outside of the 13.15 seconds mark both times.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor

Shot-putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor, a serial-medallist at the Asian level and a consistent 19.25m+ operator, had one mark in qualifying. 18.05m. The last time he had a worse mark than that was in 2019. The last time he had dipped below 18.5m was in October 2022.

These sort of examples aren't just limited to Toor or Yarraji. Kishore Jena, an athlete who threw 87 at the Asian Games last year, didn't breach the 81m mark. Annu Rani, whose national record is 63.8m, had a best of 55.8 in Paris. Sarvesh Kushare in the high jump was another whose mark left one scratching their head in dismay. At his best, he can clear 2.2m most days. In Paris, he managed only 2.15m and crashed out in the early stages of the qualification process. In all, only three individuals managed to achieve their bests of the year in Paris; Parul Chaudhary, Chopra and the men's relay team in the 4/400.

Just before the Olympics, Adille Sumariwalla, head of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI), in an interaction with this daily, had said: "We hope to do better. I'm not worried about medals. All I am saying is we will do better in every way. Whether in terms of number of athletes in the final or the number of athletes who may get a medal or performance-wise... a number of national records and personal best."

In all, two athletes qualified for the final (Chopra and Sable), one athlete got a medal, zero athletes broke national records or personal bests.

To be fair to Sumariwalla, Indian athletics has had some historic firsts in the recent past. At the Asian level, they are the clear frontrunners, winning machines even. At the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in 2022, there were a number of glass-shattering moments. Two years later, however, that excitement has been tempered, at least for the time being.

But, and this is the thing, the sport needs multiple jaw-dropping performances at the elite level. In a document released by the government of India in July, ₹96.08 cr was spent on the sport out of ₹470 cr spread across 16 sports. To justify that expenditure, the returns on investment have to be faster. In that same interview, Sumariwalla had made a prediction that at the 2028 Games in LA, they will be in the reckoning for medalling in all three of the longer relays. The race starts now.

LALOVIC, HEAD OF WORLD GOVERNING BODY, SAYS THEY MAY DISCUSS THE CURRENT RULES WITH ITS MEDICAL COMMISSION. A RULE-CHANGE, EVEN IF IT IS RATIFIED, WILL TAKE TIME

Post Vinesh DQ, UWW may consult medical commission

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

VINESH Phogat's saga seems to have woken up United World Wrestling (UWW) as the world governing body is expected to consult its medical commission on the rules that led to the disqualification of the Indian wrestler.

Vinesh was found to be overweight by 100 grams during the second weigh-in on the morning of her 50kg final at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Going by the UWW rules, the 29-year-old grappler from Haryana was disqualified which also meant she finished last in her weight category despite reaching the final and being assured of a silver medal a day before the bout.

"I think (Rei) Higuchi told all of it, but we will again consult the medical commission," Nenad Lalovic, the UWW president, told this daily when asked about the Court of Arbitration for Sport decision of dismissing Vinesh's application for a shared silver medal on Wednesday.

Japanese wrestler Higuchi, who too was disqualified from the Asian Olympic Qualifier for being 50 grams overweight ahead of the Tokyo Games, came out in support of Vinesh and said, "I understand your pain the best. Same 50g. Don't worry about the voices around you. Life goes on. Rising from setbacks is the most beautiful thing. Take a good rest." He had won silver at the 2016 Olympics. Higuchi eventually won the 57kg gold in Paris wherein he defeated India's Aman Sehrawat in the semifinal. Soon after Vinesh's disqualification on August 7, Lalovic had said that rules are rules and the UWW will only get more strict on weight issues. "We have to respect the rules. I'm so sad what happened to her. She was overweight, even though by a small margin but rules are rules. We should be more strict on that (weights) because we have a problem that you are living in this moment. The wrestlers are losing too much weight and it's not good for their health. Many have seen their interest at the moment but they don't see what happens in 20-30 years. We want athletes to compete in their natural weight. That's the idea."

However, consultation with the medical commission doesn't necessarily mean the rules can be changed and implemented with immediate effect. "The medical council, if it comes up with some amendments, has to submit them to the UWW Bureau and executive council which in turn will table it before the UWW general council for approval. Once approved there, the amended rules could be implemented from the beginning of the next year," a source aware of the UWW's functioning told this daily.

Not only Higuchi, the 2012 London Olympic gold medallist in the 74kg, US' Jordan Burroughs, also proposed immediate rule changes after Vinesh's episode. Burroughs' suggestions included a weight allowance of up to one kilogram on the second day, pushing weighins from 8.30AM to 10.30AM, and implementing a rule that forfeits future finals if an opposing finalist misses weight. The wrestler also suggested that after a semifinal victory, both finalists should secure their medals even if they miss weight on the second day, with the gold medal awarded only to those who make weight. He strongly recommended that Vinesh should be given the silver medal.

Football focus

With all of Europe's biggest leagues beginning over the next few days, a look what could be a potentially seismic season.

New managers in big clubs

Chelsea, Bayern Munich, Liverpool, Barcelona, Juventus... all of these stories clubs changed coaches in the off-season. It adds another layer of intrigue to the usual narrative of who will do what in the beginning of the season. Will Arne Slot and Liverpool, yet to make a signing, continue Jurgen Klopp's ethos on pressing. How soon can Hansi Flick's Barcelona calm the storm? Lots of questions.

Alonso's Leverkusen

Bayern's least expectation is to win the league title, every year. That was stopped in thrilling fashion by Xabi Alonso's unbeaten Bayer Leverkusen who stormed to the title. Having kept the nucleus of the squad, what will the Spaniard conjure up? Can the side stop a new, fresh Bayern — under Vincent Kompany these days — from regaining the title?

Man City, title defence for historic 5th straight time & the 115 charges

Manchester City will chase a historic fifth consecutive crown under Pep Guardiola. With Erling Haaland, Rodri & Co are primed to win again. However, the independent commission will begin hearing their case in the early part of this season. It pertains to when the PL accused them of falling foul of as many as 115 charges in early 2023, with some instances going back to 2008. If found guilty, City could well face relegation.

Mbappe struck on his Real Madrid debut to help his new side claim a record sixth UEFA Super Cup on Wednesday | AP

Mbappe and Real, a story foretold

When Kylian Mbappe announced he was leaving for Real on a free transfer, it didn't come as a surprise. He has trained with them as a boy, had Cristiano Ronaldo posters in his bed room growing up and has spoken about the famous white shirt on multiple occasions. Now that he is there, is this the beginning of a new Real Madrid, already a winning machine under the affable Carlo Ancelotti.

SELECT FIXTURES: ● **Premier League:** Man United vs Fulham (12.30 AM on Saturday), Ipswich vs Liverpool (5.00 PM on Saturday), Arsenal vs Wolves (7.30 PM on Saturday) ● **Serie A:** Genoa vs Inter (10.00 PM on Saturday), Milan vs Torino (12.15 AM on Sunday) ● **Bundesliga:** Monchengladbach vs Leverkusen 12.00 AM on Saturday) ● **La Liga:** Valencia vs Barcelona (1.00 AM on Sunday)

PRIME TIME

Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. Modi also addressed the other members of the Indian contingent | PTI

Sinner and Swiatek register wins

AGENCIES @Cincinnati

CINCINNATI Masters top seeds Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek both secured opening triumphs Wednesday over qualifiers, with Swiatek forced to escape an attempted second-round ambush by France's Varvara Gracheva. WTA World No 1 Swiatek needed six match points and more than two hours to escape with a 6-0, 6-7 (8), 6-2 victory to start the last major event prior to the US Open.

ATP No 1 Sinner fought off eight break points as the top seed began the Cincinnati Open with a 6-4, 7-5 triumph over US qualifier Alex Michelsen.

Swiatek ran away with the opening set in 22 minutes but could not close out when leading 5-2 in the second. The 62nd-ranked Gracheva saved five match points and converted on her own fifth set point to take the match into a third set. Swiatek regained her poise to finally pull out the unexpectedly tight win to reach the third round.

"It was not easy to finish in the second set," Swiatek said. "She started playing with freedom, with nothing to lose.

"I backed down a bit and she used her chances. I'm happy I got more proactive in the third set and played more intense."

Italy's Sinner, who turns 23 on Friday, has never been past the third round at the American Midwest venue but is hoping to improve on that showing this week. Victory in just under two hours marked the 25th on hardcourt this season for Sinner, who was the first man into the third round.

The top seed has not lost before the quarter-final stage of any event since Masters 1000 Shanghai last October. Teenaged opponent Michelsen went down with 42 unforced errors, his winner count of 14 exactly half of Sinner's total.

"It was a tough match," Sinner said. "I needed to start feeling the conditions and getting used to them. I'm very happy to be into the next round."

EXPRESS READ

Chennaiyin FC sign defender Vignesh

CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC have completed the signing of 26-year-old defender Vignesh Dakshinamurthy on a four-year deal, the club said on Thursday. Primarily a left-back, Vignesh has also played in midfield and adds versatility and experience to the Chennaiyin backline. He becomes the club's 12th signing of the summer, joining the likes of Mandar Rao Desai and PC Laldinpuia. Vignesh began his career with Bengaluru's Ozone FC, for whom he played for six years — three in the academy and three with the first team.

SHOOTING

Glad that Swapnil is getting attention, says personal coach Deepali

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

THE dust is yet to settle post the Games. The just-concluded bash would have been life-changing for most of the participants, including Indians.

Shooters were in the thick of it as the contingent captured three bronze medals (a significant push as the country had blanked in the previous two editions of the Games) in Chateauroux (France). Swapnil Kusale was one of the shooters to climb the podium, becoming the first from the country to medal in the 50m rifle 3 positions discipline in the process.

The marksman from Maharashtra has barely had the time to rest and reflect on his feat. The 29-year-old has not even visited his hometown, Kolhapur, so far. As is the case with most medallists (past and present), he has been a sought-after figure, having been invited for several felicitation ceremonies and media functions. It has been hectic but his coach Deepali Deshpande, who also has also been experiencing the frenzy alongside him, welcomes this period of activity. "Felicitation hi khatam nahi ho raha hai (Felicitation functions have been endless). I have also tagged along with him, here and there," she says with a laugh.

"I want this kind of attention for all my shooters. He has been in the sport for such a long time. But somehow he was missing out on a big win. He lost an individual medal in the Asian Games and it was the same at the World Championships. He did win a quota but he didn't win a medal. He was not really celebrated as such. I'm glad that he is getting attention now." Moreover, Deepali feels Swapnil and the rest of the medallists' mammoth efforts could spur the contingent to win more medals next time. "The Olympics is such that you just want a medal. The medal has come. The door has been open now and everybody will follow suit. Last two editions, we had blanked so this opening of the door was vital," the Arjuna Awardee notes.

The former India high performance coach (rifle) was not in Paris but she has been a massive influence behind the scenes. She was taking a keen interest in the Games as she had three other shooters apart from Swapnil at the Games.

'Sift will bounce back'

While Swapnil surprised many to etch his name in the annals of history, Sift Kaur Samra, who was considered to be one of the favourites to medal before the Games, put up a subdued show. Arjun Babuta, who also trains under Deepali, got agonizingly close to his target before taking that dreaded fourth spot. Anjum Moudgil used all her experience to mount a challenge but failed to navigate past the qualifying hurdle. "Honestly, I didn't feel that bad about others' performance," she says, reasoning that the sport is of such nature (hits and misses).

Sift had made things look easy in the build-up to the Olympics, winning multiple medals across competitions including an Asian Games gold medal last year, where she had hit a world record mark in the final. One would not associate terms like setbacks, loss etc with Sift prior to the Paris outcome. She is now in unfamiliar territory and Deepali feels that the youngster will learn from this difficult experience.

"Sift had never experienced a downside in her career. So I was just hoping that it (downside, if any) would come after the Olympics. She had made a gradual rise and was always on the up and I was just trying to maintain the same and not interfere too much. I was hoping she would continue with that trend but it didn't happen.

"I didn't want to sow the seeds of doubt in her mind. I was hoping things would go the way it was going. I'm not sad about it. It's part of the game. She's such a strong shooter and I'm sure she'll bounce back."

While the bronze is bound to give wings to Swapnil's future, the likes of Sift will be hoping to mull over their performance and get some answers before making a fresh bid in the upcoming LA Olympics.

Facebook and Instagram parent Meta Platforms has shut down CrowdTangle, a tool widely used by researchers, watchdog organisations and journalists to monitor social media posts, notably to track how misinformation spreads on the company's platforms

69 MILLION SMARTPHONES UNITS SHIPPED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2024

VIVO LEADS MARKET WITH 16.5% SHARE

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

THE Indian smartphone market shipped 69 million smartphones in the first half of 2024 calendar year, registering a 7.2% year-over-year (YoY) growth, according to an IDC study. The study noted that in the second quarter, the market shipped 35 million smartphones, with a 3.2% YoY growth.

In terms of smartphone brands, Chinese smartphone maker Vivo ranked first with a 16.5% share, as its shipments grew by 6.7%. Xiaomi, another Chinese mobile maker, took the second spot, with shipments growing the highest among the top five vendors at 26.8% year-on-year, expanding its share from 11% in Q2 2023 to 13.5% in Q2 2024. South Korean Samsung grabbed the third position, but saw its share contract from 15.7% in Q2 2023 to 12.9% in Q2 2024. Realme and Oppo secured the fourth and fifth spots, respectively, with 12.6% and 11.5% market shares. Apple took the sixth position, with a 6.7% market share, but witnessed a growth of 24.2%.

"The latter half of the second quarter is a prelude to the crucial second half of the year, with the festive sale period going up till November. Apart from old inventory clearance in the first half of the quarter, vendors also started to launch new smartphones, especially in the mid-premium/premium segment (mostly China-based vendors) from mid-quarter onwards, for monsoon sales in July and August," said Upasana Joshi, senior research manager, devices research at IDC India.

The IDC study also noted a 2.8% YoY growth in smartphone ASPs (average selling price) in the first half of the year. However, quarterly ASPs declined by 5.6% to $248. The entry-level (sub-$100) segment witnessed a strong decline of 36% YoY to 14% share, down from 22% a year ago. Xiaomi continued to lead this space, followed by Poco and Realme. The share of the entry-premium ($200-400) segment reached 30%, up from 22%, and registered the highest growth of 42% YoY. OPPO, Vivo, and Samsung gained significant shares compared to the previous quarter, making up almost 60% of this segment.

The premium segment ($600-800) held a 2% share and declined by 37% in unit terms. Key models were the iPhone 13, Galaxy S23FE, iPhone 12, and OnePlus 12. Apple's share increased YoY to 61%, while that of Samsung rose to 24% from 21% a year ago. The super-premium segment ($800+) momentum continued with 22% growth, and its share increased from 6% to 7%. The iPhone 15/15 Plus/14/14 Plus together accounted for 77% of shipments, followed by the Galaxy S24/S24 Ultra with an 11% share. Overall, Apple led the segment with a share of 83%, followed by Samsung at 16%. As per the study, 27 million 5G smartphones were shipped in the quarter, with the share of 5G smartphone shipments increasing to 77%, up from 49% in 2Q23, while 5G smartphone ASPs declined by 22% YoY to US$293. Within 5G, shipments of the mass budget (US$100<US200) segment grew by 2.5x to reach a 45% share.

"The premiumisation trend in the smartphone market, led by Apple and Samsung, coupled with rising device costs, is motivating China-based brands to expand beyond the mass segment. The entry-premium segment (US$200<US$400) is expected to see healthy growth, while the entry-level (sub-US$100) will remain challenged at least this year despite efforts around launching affordable 5G smartphones. Also, marketing around GenAI smartphones will be more pronounced, amid heavy promotional activities around it," said Navkendar Singh, associate vice-president (devices research) at IDC.

'Maintaining human oversight is essential for ethical decision-making'

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

THOUGH artificial intelligence (AI) can perform tasks autonomously, there should be mechanisms for human intervention, especially in critical situations or when ethical dilemmas arise, says Rohan Malhotra, CEO and founder, Roadzen.

In an interaction with TNIE, Malhotra says there is a need to identify the grey areas where a direct true/false decision can't and shouldn't be taken by AI. "Identifying cases which belong in this grey area can be the first step towards a solution. Such cases can then be routed to a human decision maker, who would look at the bigger picture before taking a call," he says.

The company utilises AI/ML to empower auto insurance life cycles for a long time as it is a tech-driven company. "Any Machine Learning solution requires good quality data to deliver its impact. Often, the dataset required to solve certain use-cases is not adequate. Roadzen leverages Generative AI to bridge the gap in data. We are able to model after and generate synthetic datasets for object classes not found in abundance while processing claims," he explains.

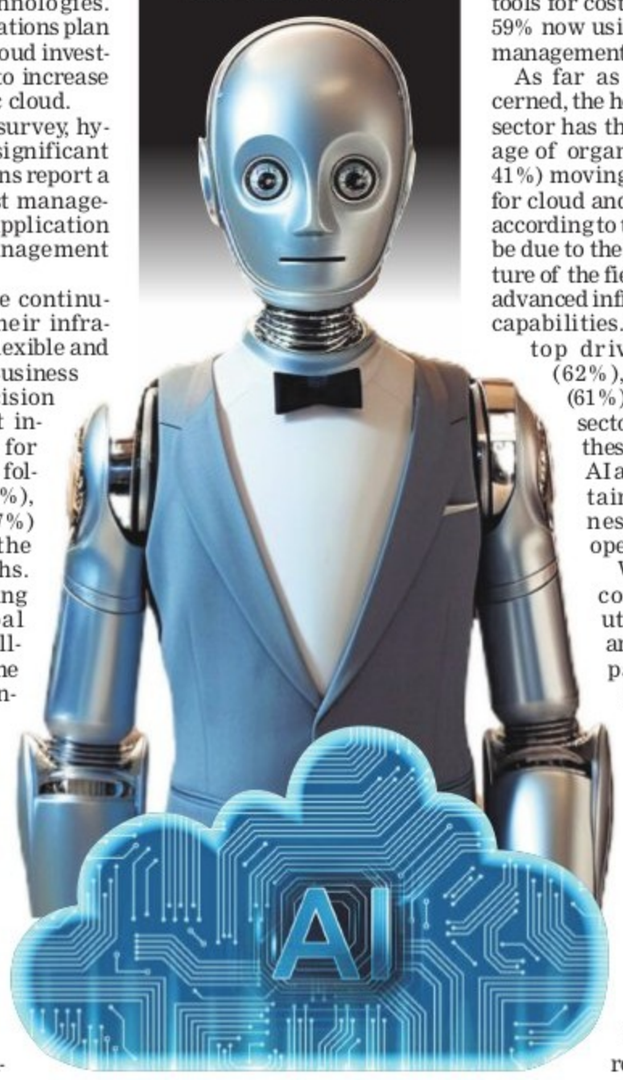
ROHAN MALHOTRA
CEO and Founder, Roadzen

For instance, rust on vehicle parts is often scarce in the dataset, while examples of scratches, dents and broken parts are in abundance. This could lead to what is known as the class-imbalance problem in AI. He adds that Gen AI helps them mitigate the same to a certain degree. "Our fraud detection solution suite also boasts of workflows which can discourage the use of fake or generated vehicle images for claims during self-inspection," he adds.

AI systems are susceptible to biases present in the data on which they are trained. In autonomous systems, biased decision-making can lead to unfair treatment of individuals or groups. Talking about it, he says, "Addressing bias requires careful consideration during the design and training phases of AI systems. Ensuring diversity in training data and implementing algorithms that mitigate bias are crucial steps to promote fairness and equity in autonomous decision-making processes. Maintaining human oversight and control over autonomous systems is essential for ethical decision-making."

One of the fundamental ethical issues revolves around who owns the vast amounts of data generated and utilised by autonomous systems. He says, "Clear policies are needed to define ownership rights—whether it is the individuals interacting with the systems, the manufacturers, or the operators. Ensuring transparency and consent in data usage is essential to address privacy concerns and ensure fair use practices."

'AI and Generative AI drive cloud investment'



UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

ARTIFICIAL intelligence and Generative AI are the top drivers for cloud investment, according to the 'Pulse of Cloud' report released by Wipro FullStride Cloud. About 55% of organisations surveyed said that their cloud adoption is ahead of their AI adoption and 35% said that they are moving at the same pace with both technologies. Also, 54% of organisations plan to increase hybrid cloud investment and 56% plan to increase investment in public cloud.

According to the survey, hybrid cloud plays a significant role and organizations report a strong focus on cost management through the application of unified cost management strategies.

Organisations are continuing to modernise their infrastructure and seek flexible and scalable solutions. Business and technology decision makers also expect increased investment for hybrid - about 54%, followed by public (56%), and multi-cloud (37%) environments in the next six to 12 months. Jo Debecker, managing partner and global head of Wipro FullStride Cloud, said the survey findings confirm that cloud continues to be the primary transformational platform for the enterprise, empowering organisations to innovate and stay competitive. "The importance of an effective cloud strategy is only amplified with the increasing focus on AI. The cloud's scalability and processing power are critical in holding and managing the huge volumes of reference data required by AI. As such, cloud investment decisions are increasingly being driven by the need to support AI," he added.

The report also reveals the growing focus on cloud cost management, with 54% of organisations leveraging utilisation analysis and automation tools for cost management and 59% now using a unified cloud management strategy.

As far as sectors are concerned, the health & life science sector has the highest percentage of organisations (close to 41%) moving at the same pace for cloud and AI adoption, and according to the survey, it might be due to the data-intensive nature of the field, requiring both advanced infrastructure and AI capabilities. AI/GenAI is the top driver for banking (62%), manufacturing (61%), and retail (55%) sectors, indicating that these sectors now view AI as crucial for maintaining competitiveness and improving operations.

When it comes to cost management, utilisation analysis and automation capabilities are the most common approaches (54%), followed by cloud economics governance (47%) and FinOps (44%). Organisations leveraging these tools are better positioned to compete effectively and allocate resources efficiently, the report added.

Google unveils Pixel 9 series with advanced AI features

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

TECHNOLOGY giant Google introduced its latest smartphone series, the Pixel 9 series. The series includes a range of new devices: the Pixel 9, Pixel 9 Pro, Pixel 9 Pro XL, Pixel 9 Pro Fold, Pixel Watch 3, and Pixel Buds Pro 2, alongside updates to Android and Gemini. The new Pixel 9 lineup is distinguished by its powerful AI capabilities, designed to enhance the user experience across various functions. In this article, we will focus on the main AI features that power the Pixel 9 series.

Gemini: your personal AI assistant

Central to the Pixel 9 experience is Gemini, Google's new AI assistant, which is integrated deeply with Google apps and Android. Users can access Gemini directly by pressing the power button, facilitating complex queries without relying on third-party AI services. Gemini's multimodal capabilities allow interactions through text, images, or voice, providing a versatile and intuitive assistant experience. Gemini Live, available to Gemini Advanced subscribers at launch, offers a fluid conversational experience with the AI.

Photography features

The Pixel 9 series brings significant advancements to mobile photography. The new Add Me feature, utilising augmented reality and AI, ensures no one is left out of group shots. Enhanced by a 5x telephoto lens and Video Boost on the Pixel 9 Pro and Pixel 9 Pro XL, users can achieve high-quality zoom up to 20x. The Magic Editor and Auto Frame tools, powered by AI, allow for creative photo re-imagination and subject-focused recomposition.

Pixel studio

Pixel Studio, a new app exclusive to the Pixel 9, introduces a first-of-its-kind image generator. Powered by the Tensor G4 chip and Imagen 3 text-to-image model, it allows users to create and edit images effortlessly. The app supports style adjustments, personal stickers, and sharing options, making it a versatile tool for creativity.

Weather reports

The updated Pixel Weather app leverages AI for more precise weather forecasts, including customised reports generated by Gemini Nano. Users can tailor the app's interface to highlight important weather data. Additionally, Google Keep now integrates with Gemini to simplify list creation, whether for groceries or travel planning.

Improved screenshot and call management

The new Pixel Screenshots app organises and retrieves information from saved screenshots, while Call Notes provides a private summary and transcript of phone conversations. This feature, which runs on-device to ensure privacy, automatically records essential details from calls. Google's Pixel 9 series represents a significant leap forward in mobile technology, combining cutting-edge AI with enhanced performance and creative features to offer users an unparalleled experience.

TECHNOLOGY BUZZ

Musk's xAI launches Grok 2, an AI tool with fewer guardrails

Elon Musk's artificial intelligence startup xAI has launched the beta version of its latest AI assistant — Grok 2. The tool has an image generation capability similar to OpenAI's DALL-E and Google's Gemini. Grok 2 can respond to prompts with both text and images and is available to X users who have a 'Premium' or 'Premium+' subscription. Unlike its competitors, Grok 2 appears to have fewer limitations on image generation, including prompts involving political leaders. Users have already shared examples of images generated by Grok 2, including those of former US President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris. Musk has positioned Grok as an AI tool with fewer guardrails. Its launch comes amid Musk's public feud with OpenAI, which he co-founded and later sued over alleged bias and political correctness. The startup aims to differentiate itself from competitors with its more permissive approach to AI generation. xAI raised $6 billion in funding in May

Acer Inc unveils two new Chromebook Plus models

Acer has unveiled its latest Chromebook Plus models — the Acer Chromebook Plus 14 and 15—in India. These laptops are aimed at those in the enterprise and education sectors. They offer robust performance, come with enhanced productivity features and have a sleek design. Powered by Intel and AMD processors, they come with built-in Google apps and AI capabilities, including Google Photos Magic Eraser and Adobe Photoshop on the web. The Chromebook Plus 14 features a 14-inch Full HD IPS display, while the Chromebook Plus 15 boasts a 15.6-inch Full HD IPS display. Both models offer up to 16GB Low-power double data rate 5X (LPDDR5X) Synchronous Dynamic Random Access Memory (SDRAM) and 512GB PCIe NVMe SSD storage. They also feature dual DTS speakers, two microphones, and a high-definition Full HD webcam. Priced starting at `35,990, the laptops will be available at Acer exclusive stores, online marketplaces, and multi-brand outlets.

Customer experience industry set for major overhaul by 2027

Customer experience industry is set for a major overhaul, thanks to AI, says a report by US tech company Zendesk. About 90% of industry leaders in India believe CX (Customer experience) will undergo a period of unprecedented change over the next three years, thanks to AI, which is expected to play a major role in all customer interactions in future. AI's impact on CX will lead to more immersive customer experiences with 96% of industry leaders in India forecasting a future where every customer interaction becomes an evolving blend of commerce, service, and support, significantly enhancing customer engagement. "A new golden age in customer experience is just around the corner, one in which consumers receive instant, personalised service across channels," the report said. Unlike chatbots of the present day, generative AI can "respond to customers in warm, conversational ways, providing answers that adapt dynamically to queries", the report said.

AI has significant potential to transform patient care

Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology promises to transform the country's healthcare system by enhancing the quality of diagnostics, streamlining operations, and improving patient care. Nasscom and Kantar in their report 'Advancing Healthcare in India — Navigating the Transformative Impact of AI' highlighted significant use cases for AI and outlined a strategic roadmap for AI implementation. Varied applications are emerging for AI in the healthcare sector. Areas such as drug discovery and development, clinical trials, and AI imaging and diagnostics have witnessed a significant uptick in AI penetration levels. While there has been a growing interest and investment in Generative AI, its adoption in the healthcare segment is in its nascent stages, with 34% of healthcare organisations in the country piloted at least 1-2 Gen AI use cases in 2023, and only 16% of the organisations had moved to production phase in the last year.